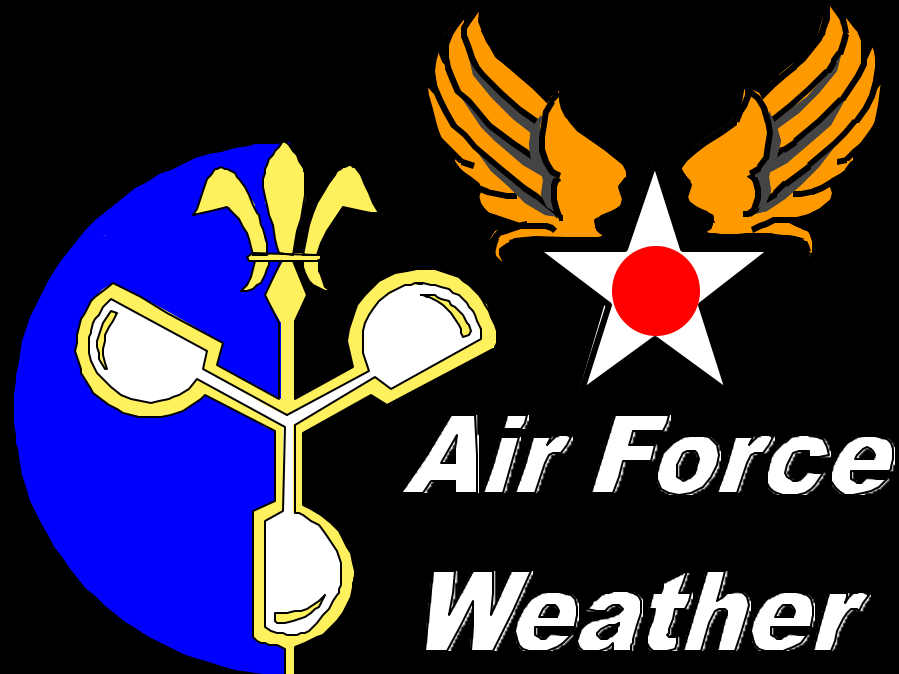


*... on our Nation's team ...*  
**Weather Support  
for America's War Fighters**

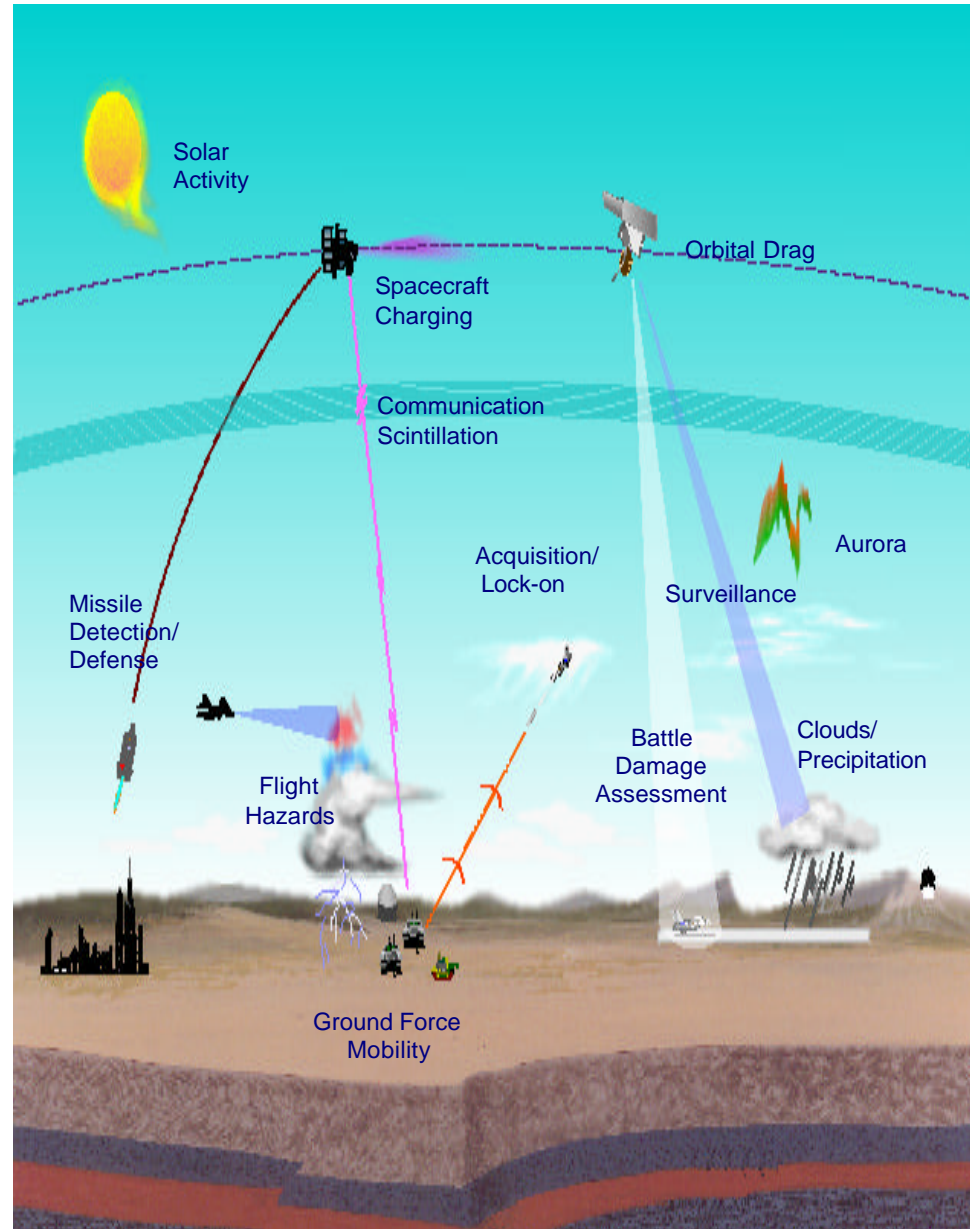


**Colonel Michael A. Neyland**  
**Deputy Director of Weather, HQ U.S. Air Force**

# Air Force Weather: Mud to the Sun

The people of Air Force Weather provide information, products and services that support air, land, and space operations

-- truly from the mud to the sun





# AFW MISSION STATEMENT

*"Deliver the highest quality mission-tailored weather and space environment information, products, and services to our Nation's combat forces...anytime, anyplace...mud to the sun."*

To accomplish the AF mission, forces must be able to engage and prevail globally, by operating in the air and space environment, which can either enhance or degrade the effectiveness of systems and operations. It is the AFW mission to provide the highest quality, mission-tailored weather and space information--anytime, anywhere--from the mud to the sun.



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

**“Know the weather ...”**

- ... to plan military operations**
- ... to assess enemy capabilities**
- ... to execute the military mission**
- ... to protect war fighting resources**

---

*“Know yourself, know your enemy;  
your victory will never be endangered.  
Know the ground, know the weather;  
your victory will be total ...”*

**Sun Tzu, 500 B.C.**





# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

**WEATHER AFFECTS VIRTUALLY  
ALL HUMAN ENDEAVOR**

**“Know the weather ...”**

- ... to plan military operations**
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---

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# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## Weather Services

Today's military air & space operations stretch from the surface of the Earth to the realm of space. Experience from the beginnings of armed conflict has proven that the awareness or ignorance of the effects of the natural air & space environment can have **a decisive impact on war.** Decisions are enhanced by commanders integrating knowledge of the weather into every facet of military operations. **By understanding the impacts of the environment, opportunities can be anticipated and exploited, and the effects of mission-limiting weather can be mitigated.**



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## Weather Services

Today's military air & space operations stretch from the surface of the Earth to the realm of space. Experience from the beginnings of armed conflict has proven that the awareness or ignorance of the effects of the natural air & space environment can have a **decisive impact on war**. Decisions are enhanced by commanders integrating knowledge of the weather into every facet of military operations. **By understanding the impacts of the environment, opportunities can be anticipated and exploited, and the effects of mission-limiting weather can be mitigated.**

**THE WEATHER ITSELF IS NOT NEARLY AS IMPORTANT  
AS WEATHER'S IMPACTS ON HUMAN ACTIVITIES**

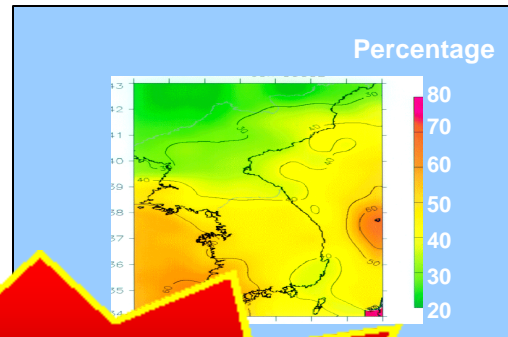


# AFW: WHAT WE DO

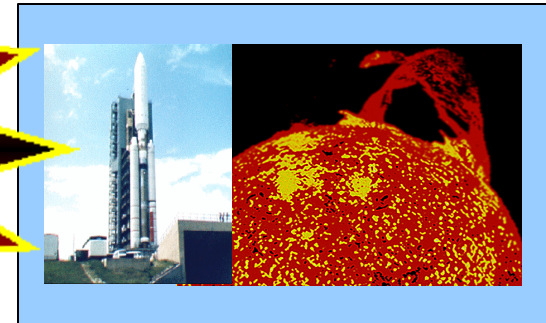
## Terrestrial Weather



## Space Weather

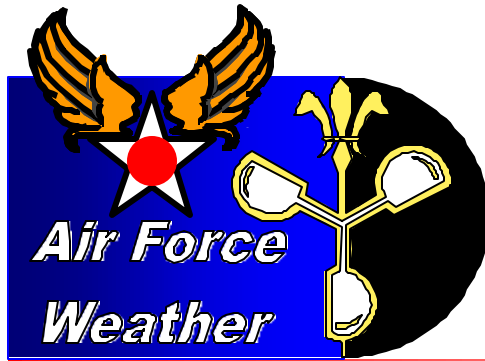


## Climatology



*Ensuring DoD Operators  
can “Exploit the Weather”*

*“From the Mud to the Sun”*



# CORE PROCESSES AIR & SPACE

ALL KEY TO PERFORMING AFW'S MISSION

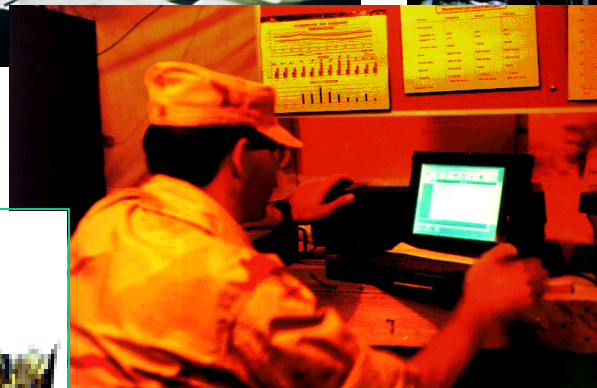
*ANALYSIS*



*TAILORING*



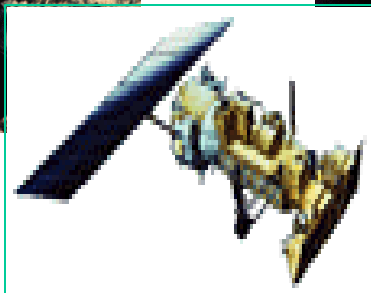
*FORECASTING*



*DISSEMINATION*



*DATA COLLECTION*





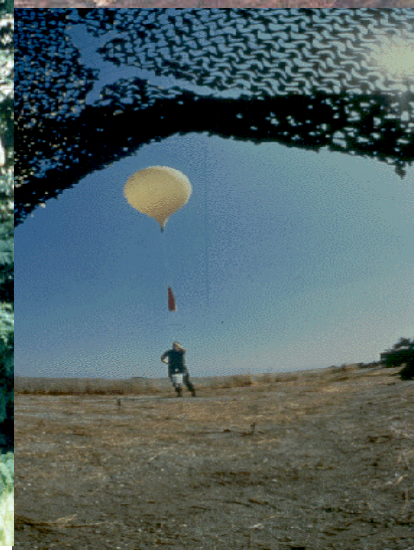


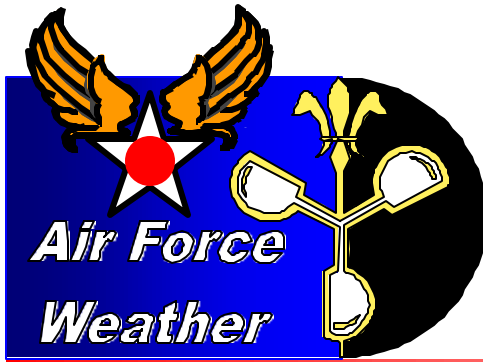
# TERRESTRIAL WEATHER

*Timely Accurate Relevant*

## DATA COLLECTION

- Surface / upper air obs
- Satellite soundings
- Cloud imagery (all METSATS)
- Radar / lightning data
- Space weather obs
- Nontraditional obs (GPS)





# TERRESTRIAL WEATHER

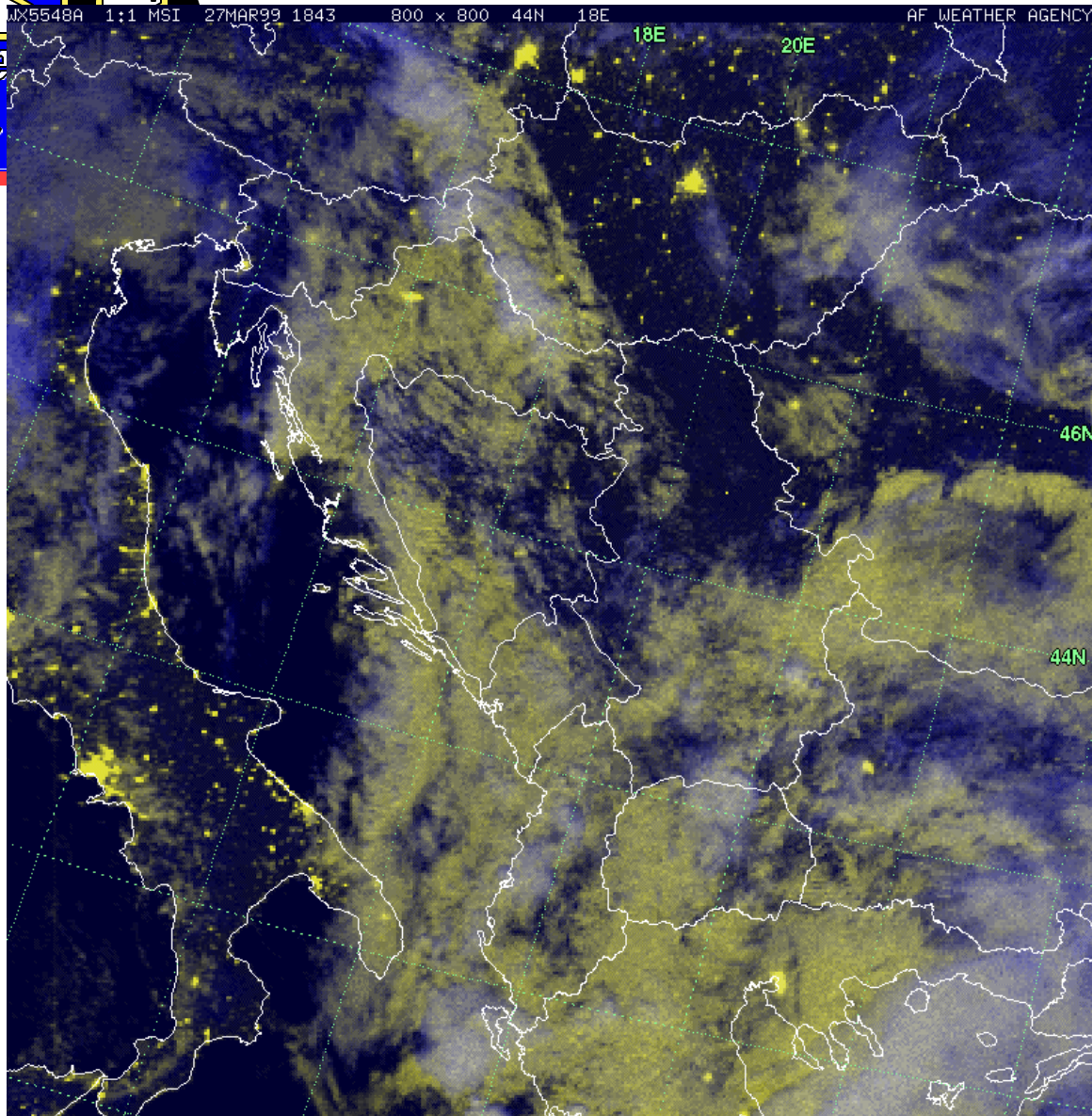
*Timely Accurate Relevant*

## Weather Parameters

- Temperature
- Humidity
- Winds
- Pressure
- Clouds
- Visibility
- Precipitation (Amount & Type)
- Cloud-free Line of Sight
- Severe Weather (tornadoes, hail, winds over 35 knots)
- Hazards
- Turbulence
- Icing



# Multispectral DMSP Imagery



**Operation  
Allied Force  
27 Mar 99**



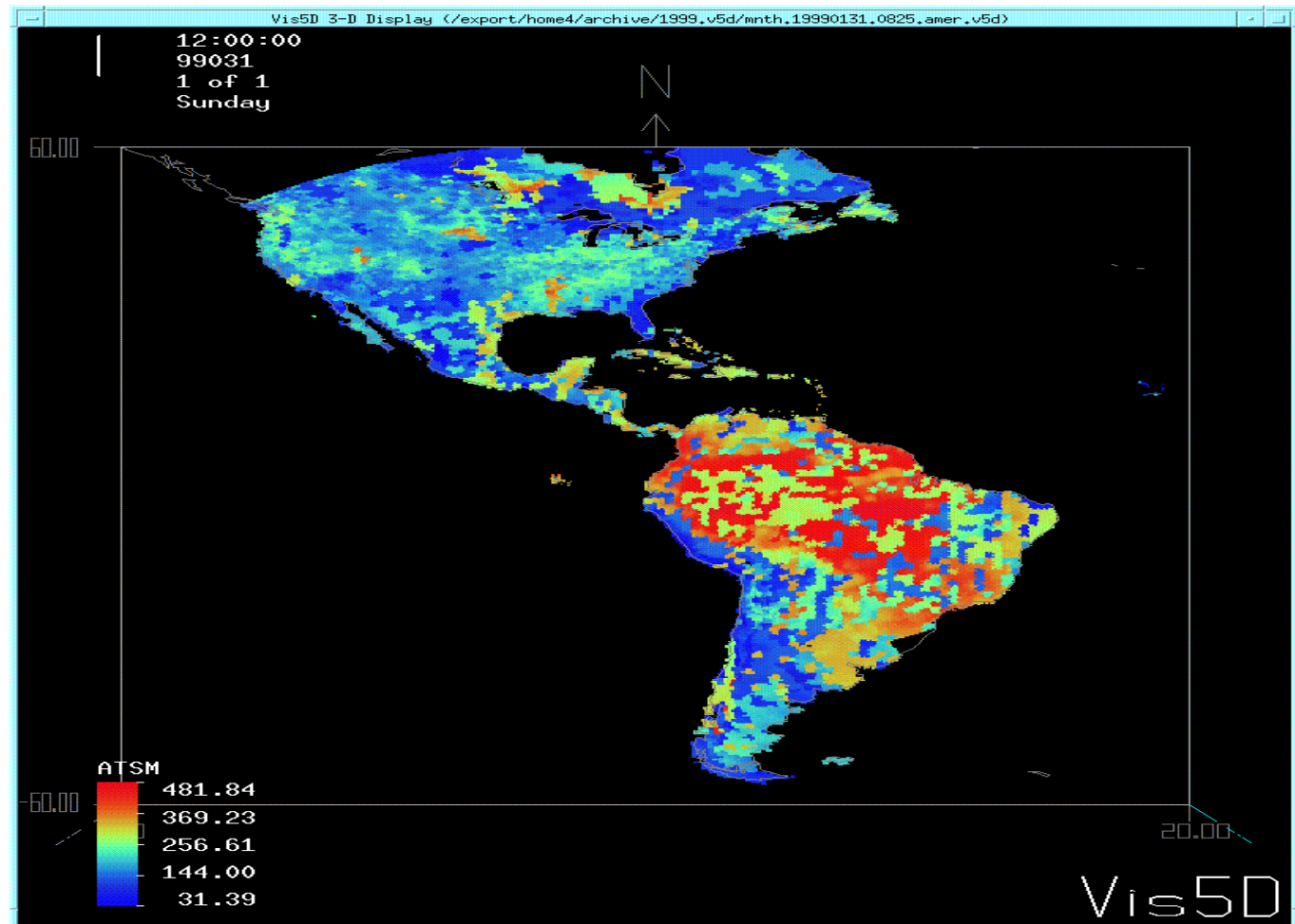


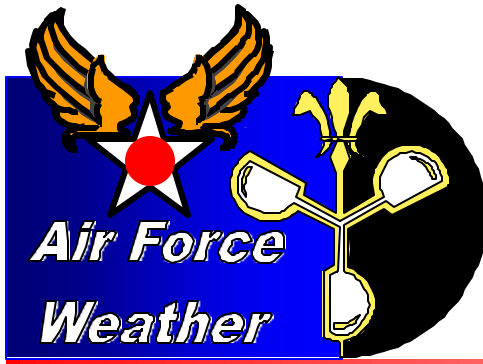
# Agricultural Meteorology (AGRMET)

## Jan 99 Top Soil Moisture

(Cubic inches of water / Cubic inches of soil sample)

Analysis of surface  
parameters (soil  
moisture, etc.)





# TERRESTRIAL WEATHER

*Timely Accurate Relevant*

## ***NUMERICAL WEATHER PREDICTION PROCESS***

- **Application models (use output from global and theater fine-scale models)**
  - Cloud forecasts, thunderstorm forecasts
  - Aviation and maneuver parameters
  - Slant path profiles, cloud-free line of sight
  - Agricultural meteorological analysis
  - Tactical decision aids



# TERRESTRIAL WEATHER

*Timely Accurate Relevant*

- Support to US Army/AF Ground Operations
  - Trafficability
  - Ground/Aviation Ops in Lowest 3000 Ft
  - Valley-By-Valley Ops
  - EO weapons and sensor support
  - Snow Cover
  - River Flooding
  - Soil Conditions
  - Terrain/Vegetation
  - Vehicle Operations
  - Troop Movement
  - Axes of Advance



# TERRESTRIAL WEATHER

*Timely Accurate Relevant*

## ■ Resource Protection

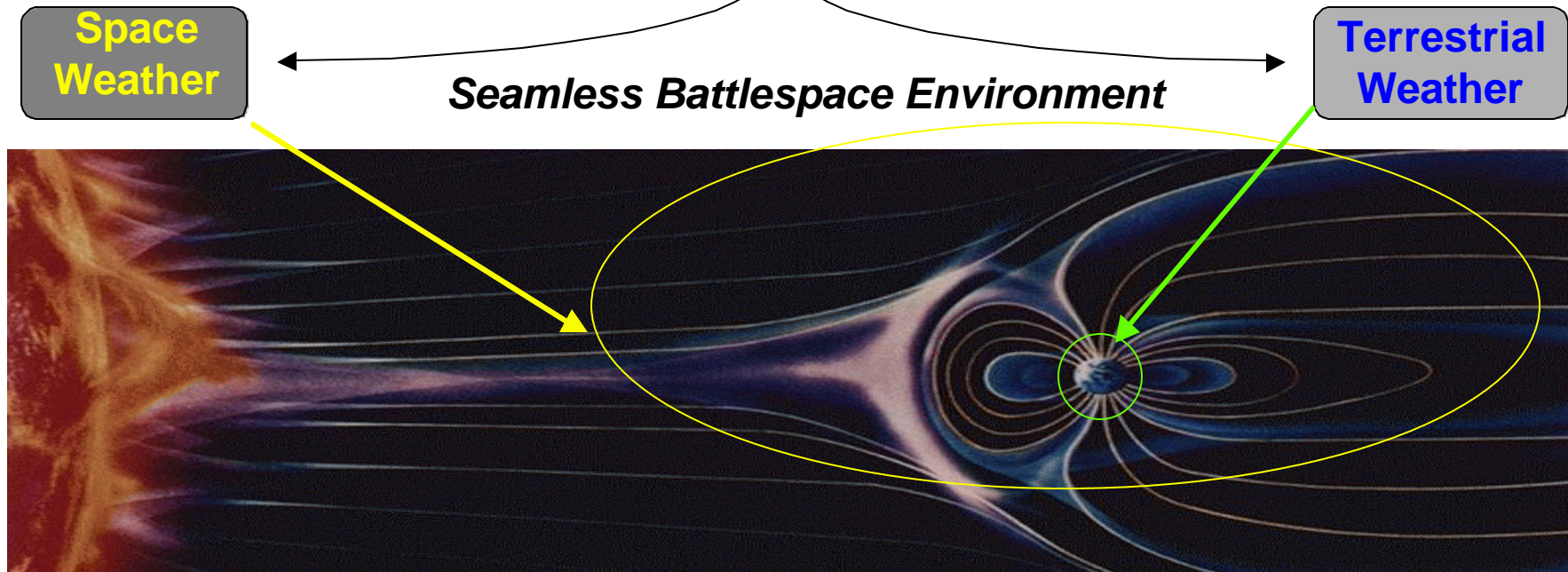
- Precise forecasts of threatening weather conditions that endanger people, resources, or operations
- Tornadoes
- High Winds
- Hail
- Lightning
- Floods
- Heavy Snow/"Blizzard"
- Excessive Temperatures
- Sand Storm



# SPACE WEATHER

*Key to 21st Century Warfare*

Weather - - Environmental Disturbances Generated by the Sun



**Space Weather:** Electromagnetic radiation and electrically-charged particles stream outward from the sun, envelop the earth, and interact with the earth's magnetic field and terrestrial atmosphere creating an adverse environment.





# SPACE WEATHER

*Key to 21st Century Warfare*

**ISSUE**  
Military Operations Depend on Electronically Sensitive Space and Ground Systems Which Fail Due to Severe Space Weather

**IMPACT**  
The Proliferation of These Systems Without a Complementing Space Weather Capability Will Fracture the Seamless Battlespace

**STATUS**  
Multi-Hundred Billion Dollar Investment Not Optimized

**MAGNETOSPHERE**  
30+ Satellites



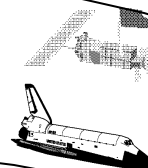
DSP  
MILSTAR  
DSCS

**RADIATION BELTS**  
25+ Satellites



GPS

**IONOSPHERE**  
25+ Satellites



DMSP  
SHUTTLE

**MESOSPHERE**

**STRATOSPHERE**

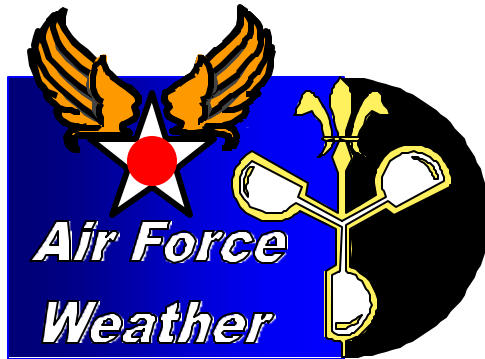


**TROPOSPHERE**



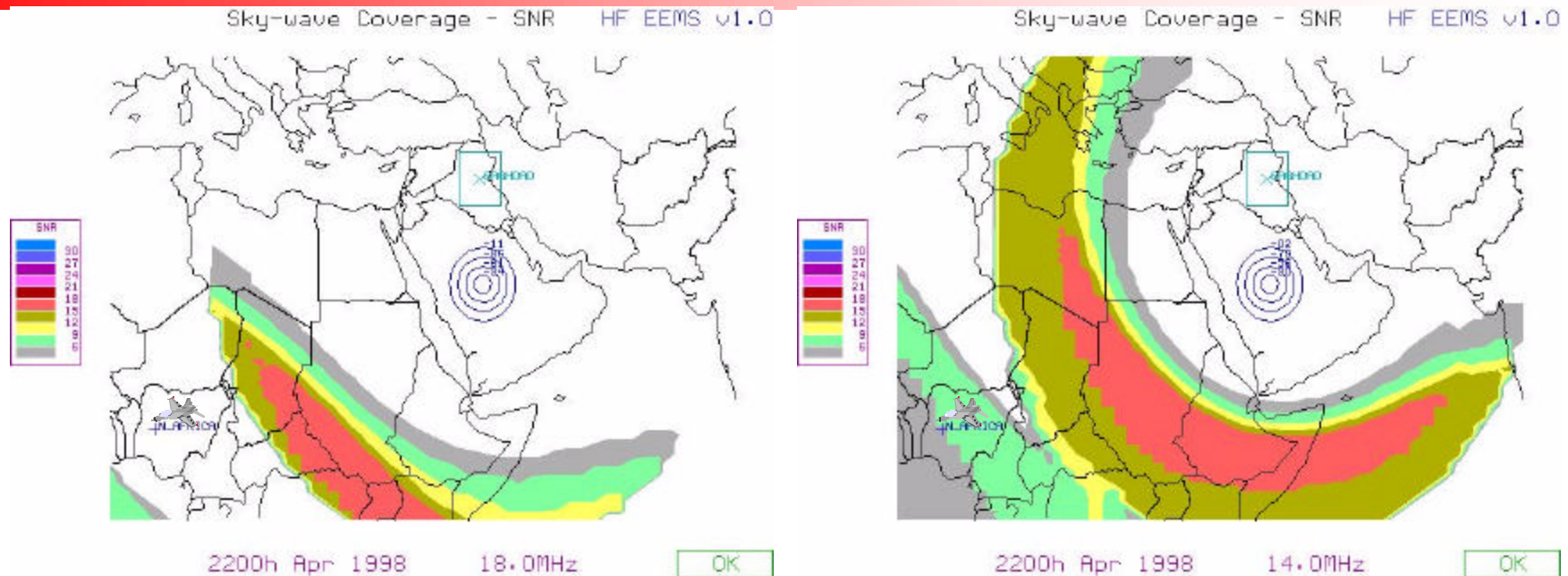
Space Weather  
Terrestrial Weather

SEAMLESS  
BATTLESPACE



# TECHNOLOGIES: Space Weather

## HF Illumination Maps Scenario #1: Link Establishment



- Correct frequency selection allows HF link establishment
- Illumination maps also facilitate jammer location, sigint denial, and enhanced OTH surveillance







# LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGIES

## Enable Us to Excel

---

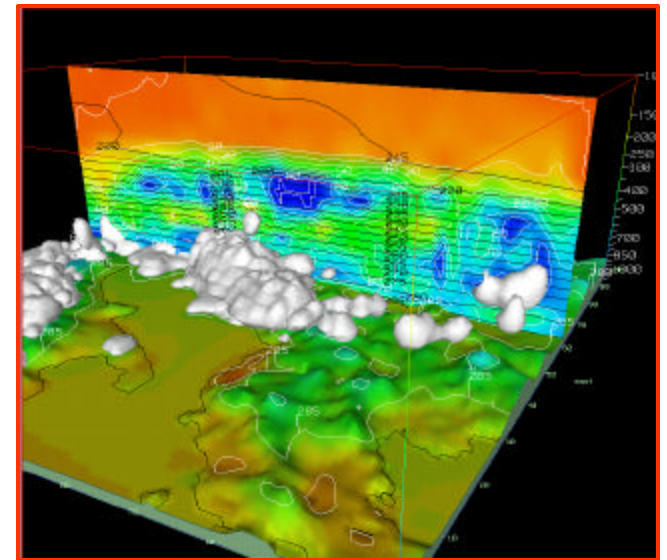
- **Leveraging National and Commercial Capabilities**
  - Navy-Air Force cooperation agreement
  - Air Force-Army partnering continues strong (ARL support)
  - Federal agency partnerships
    - AFW provides backup support to SPC, AWC, NCEP
    - FAA and DOA partnerships
  - Universities, researchers & contractors
- **Mission-Scale Meteorology**
  - Operationalized, fine-scale models
  - Meteorological satellite & space weather expertise
  - Weather effects visualization



# LEVERAGING

## Weather Forecast Models

- **NOAA & Navy run global, large scale forecast models.**
  - Used to forecast large-scale (global) weather systems
  - AFW uses output from NOAA & Navy
- **AFW runs High Resolution Mesoscale and Specialized Weather Models**
  - Used to forecast smaller scale weather systems
  - NOAA and research community develops mesoscale models
  - AFW adapts models for daily use to support worldwide military operations with fine-scale, accurate, relevant wx info





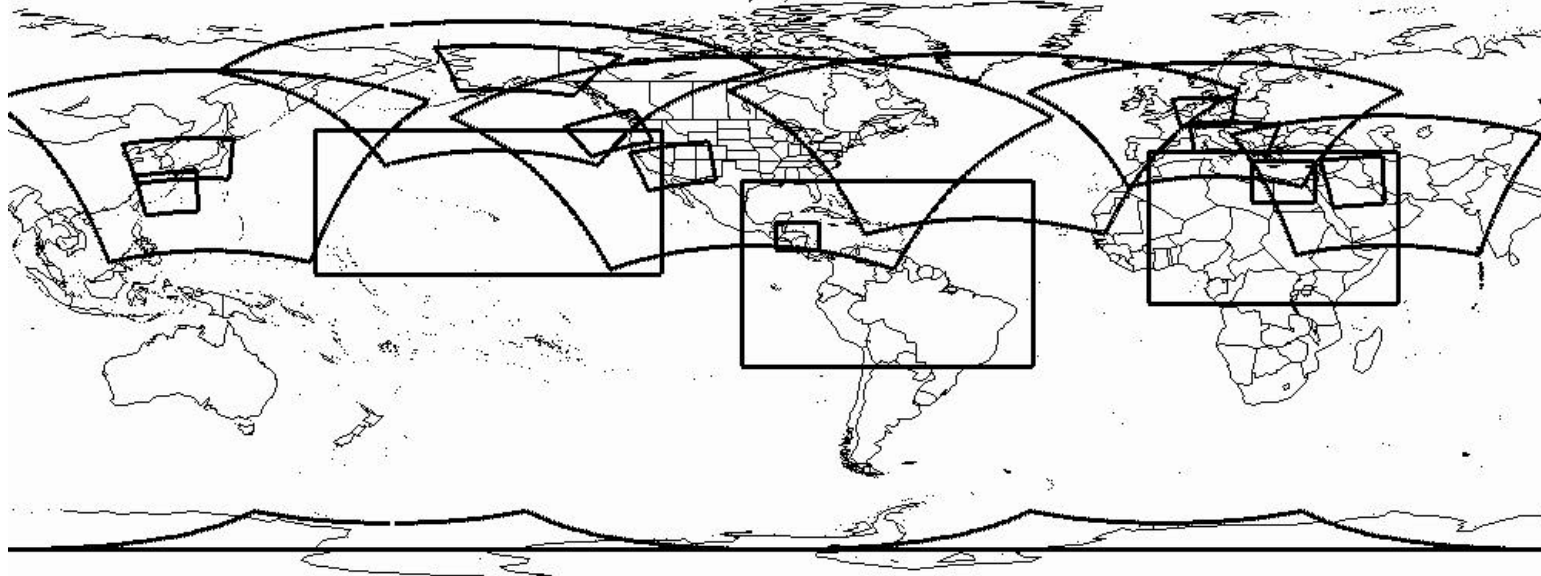
# TECHNOLOGIES

## FOCUS ON SIGNIFICANT EVENTS / WEATHER

Precision Forecasting ... Anywhere, Anytime!  
Rapidly relocate fine-scale analysis and forecast windows around the world. Visualization products on the DoD worldwide web within a few hours.

### MM5 GLOBAL WINDOW CONFIGURATIONS

LAST MODIFIED:11/27/1999 04:32:30.000

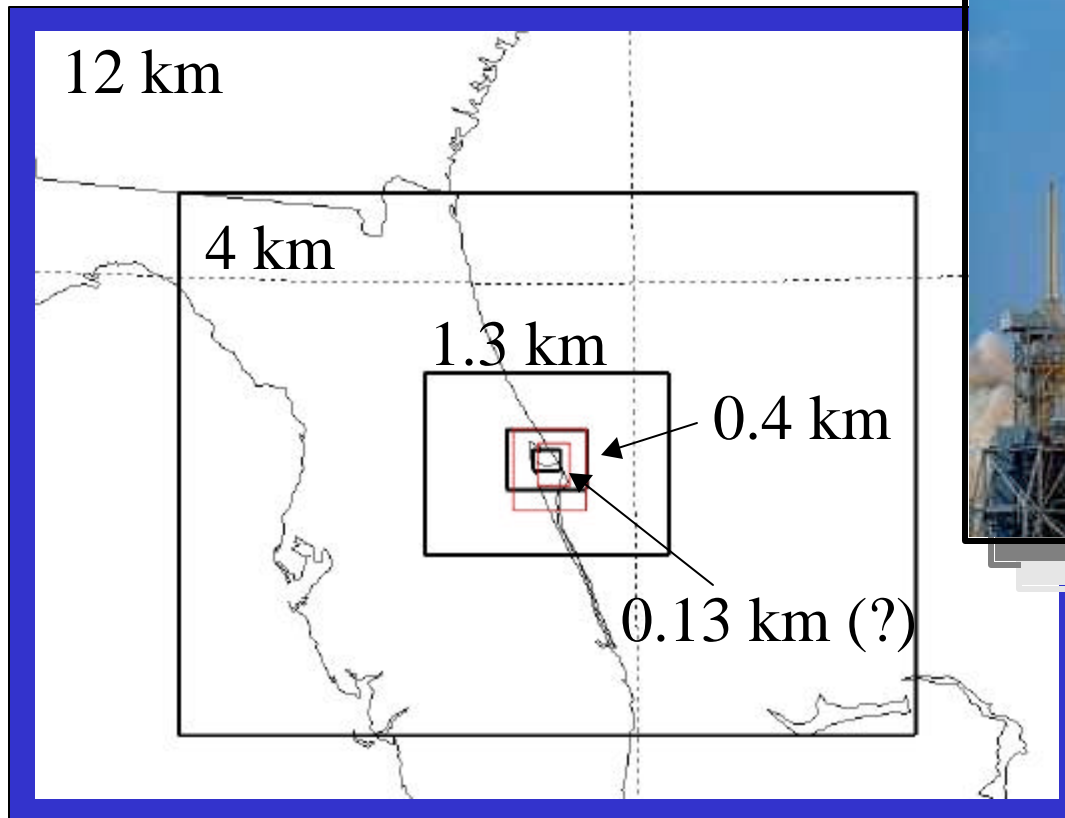


Typical MM5 Window Locations

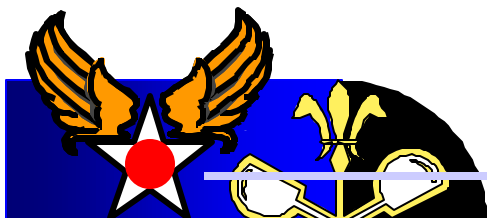


# Another Window Possibility Space Shuttle Launch or Operational Target

**Finest resolution for critical forecasts**

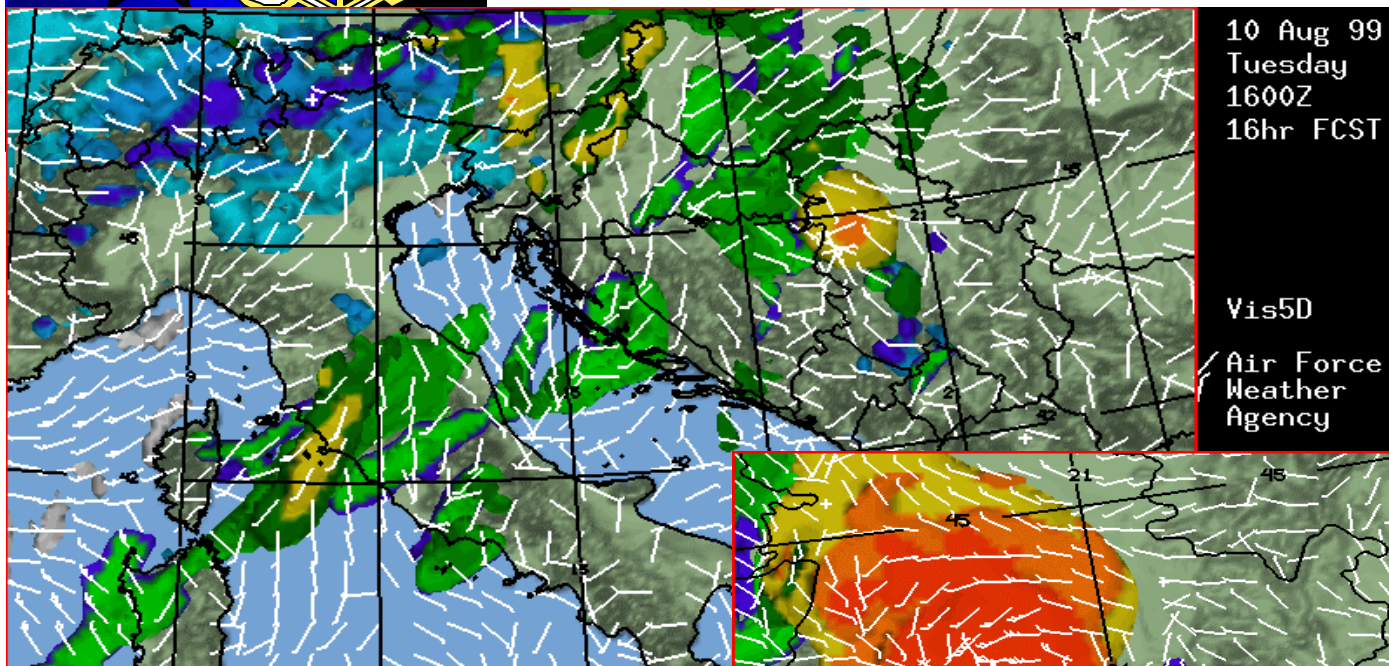




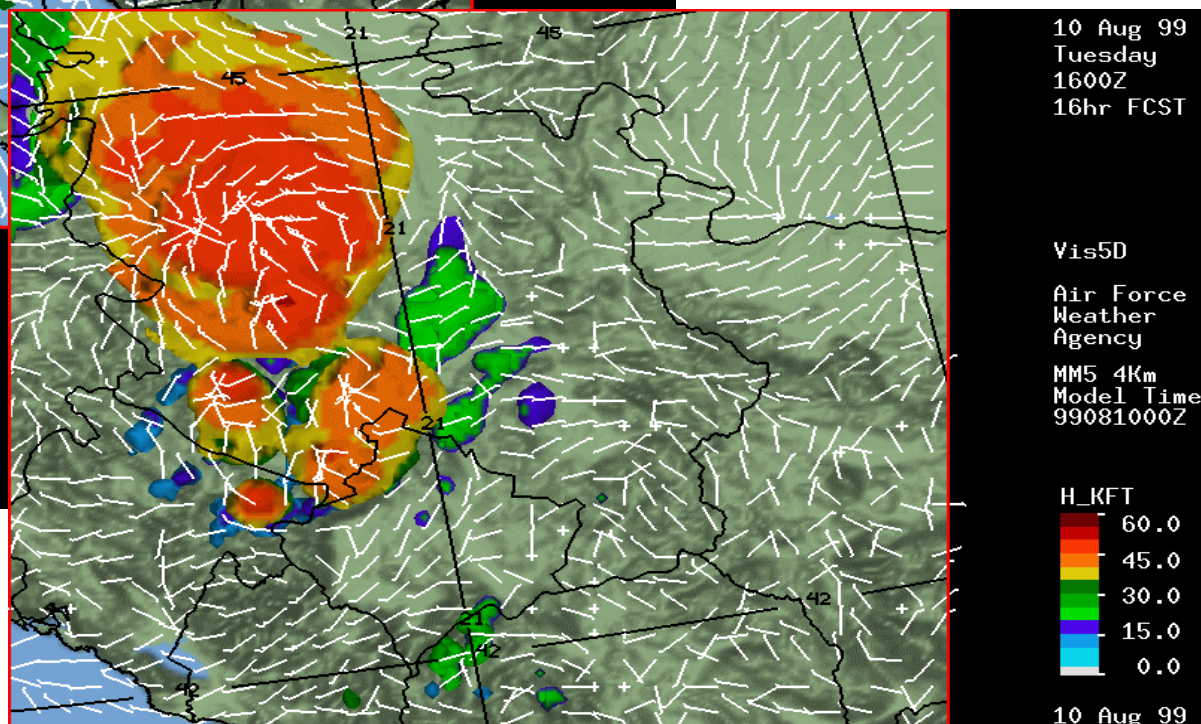


# TECHNOLOGY

## FINE-SCALE FORECASTING MODELS



12 km



4 km

Cloud Tops (MSL) / Surface Winds / Thickness (red)

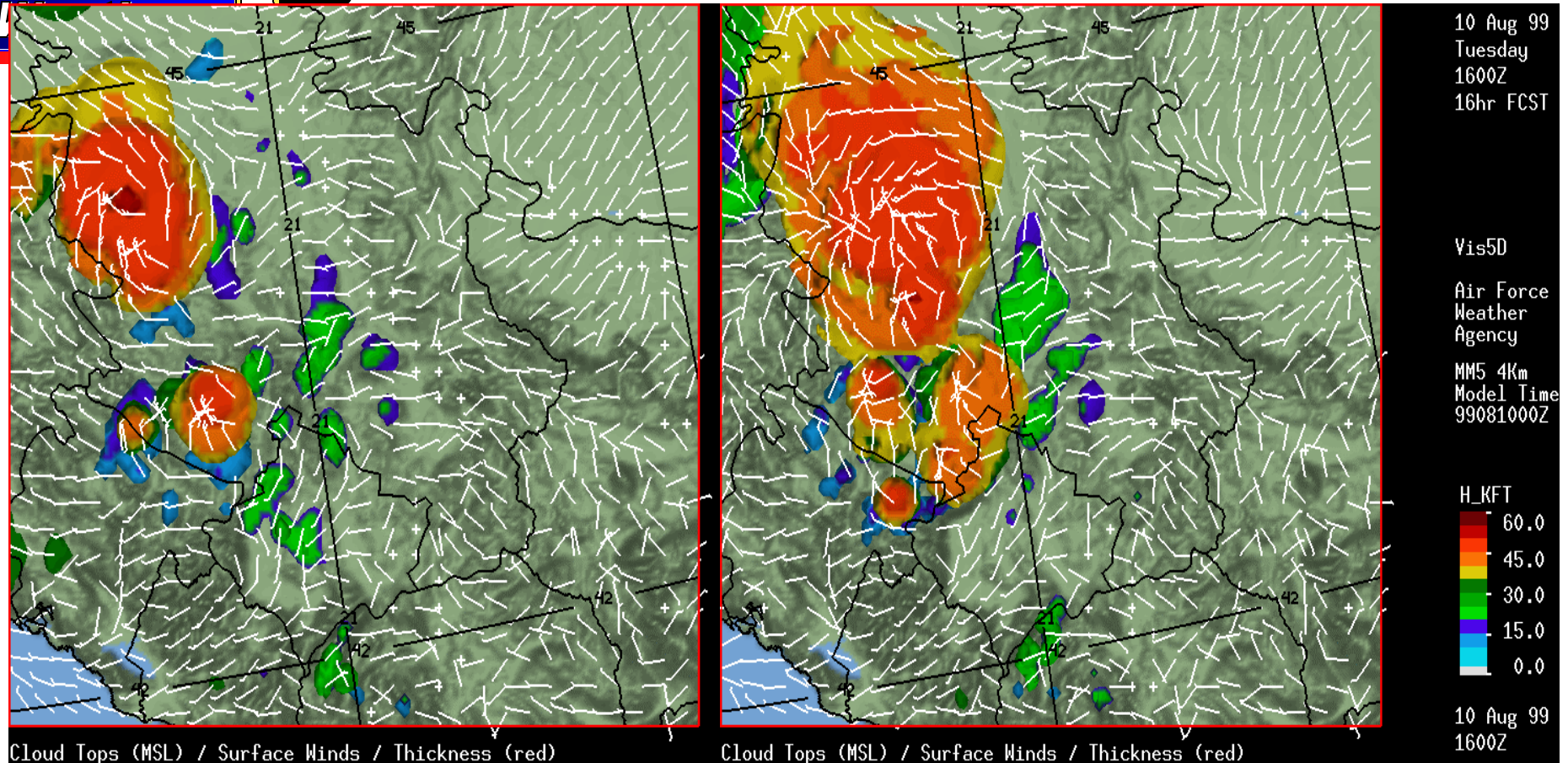
10 Aug 99  
1600Z



# TECHNOLOGY

## FINE-SCALE FORECASTING MODELS

4 km MM5

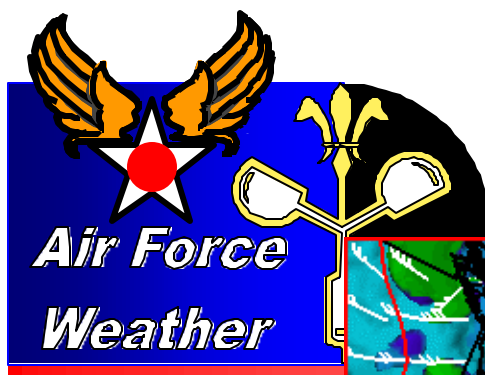


15Z 10 Aug

16Z 10 Aug

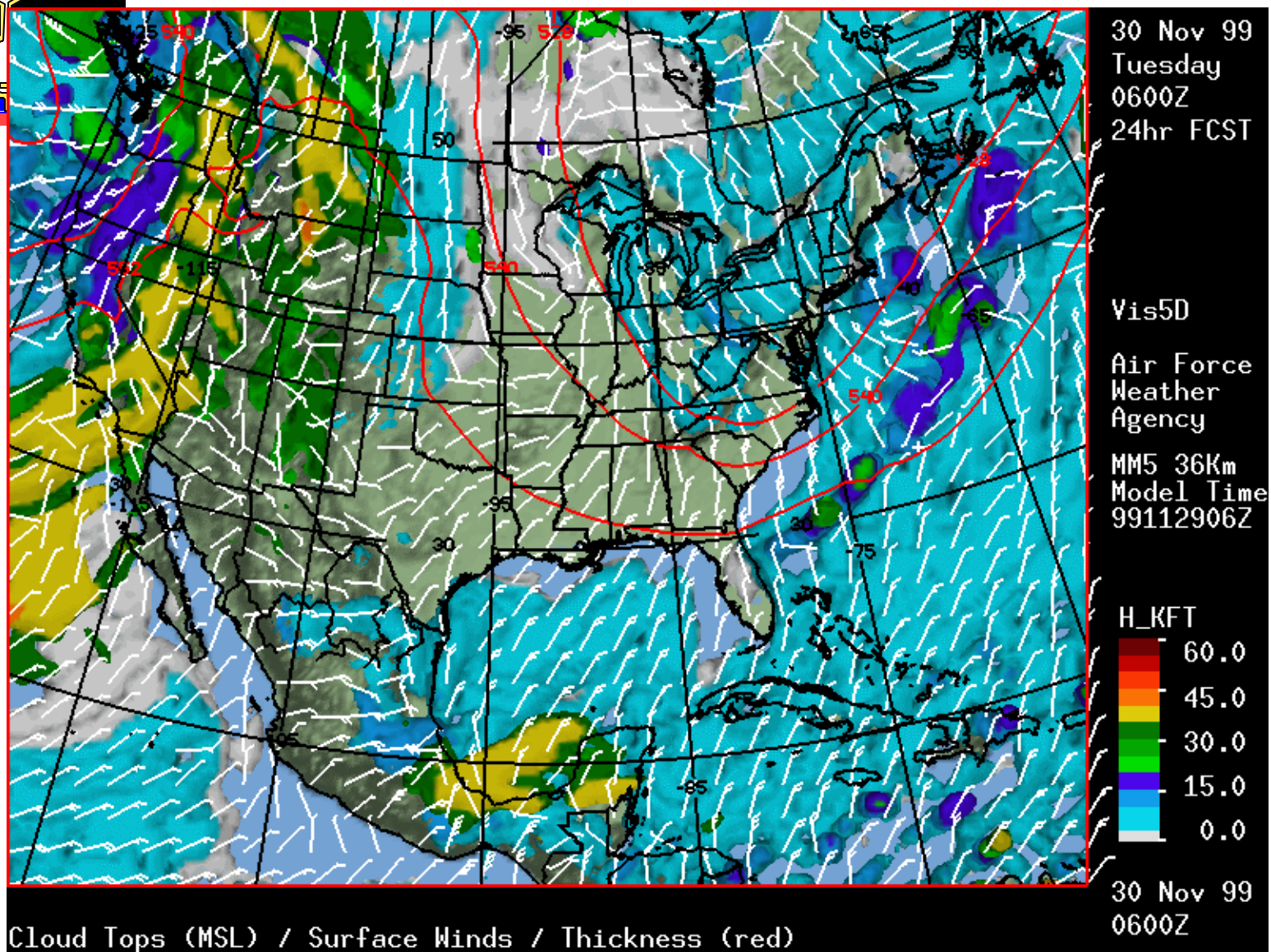
Balkans





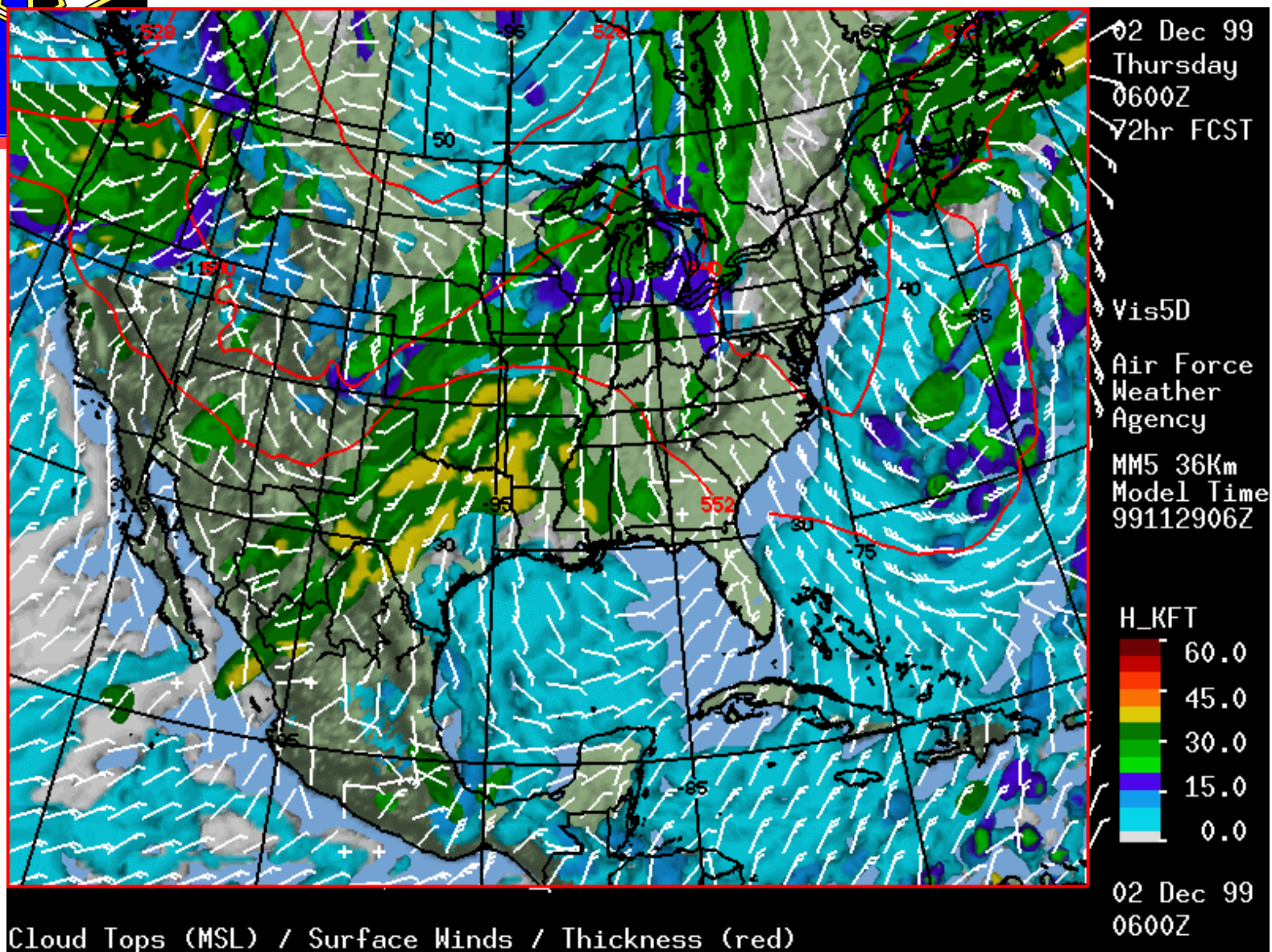
# MM5 36km Cloud Tops/Surface Winds

## 24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

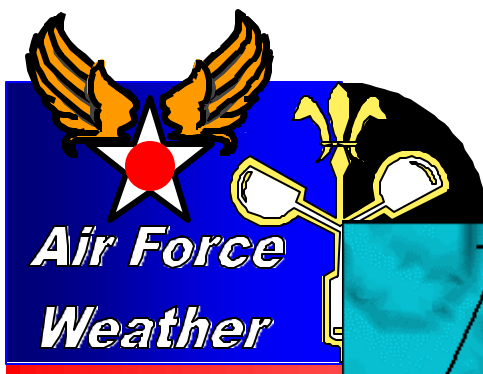




# MM5 36km Cloud Tops/Surface Winds 72 Hr Forecast Valid 2 Dec 06Z

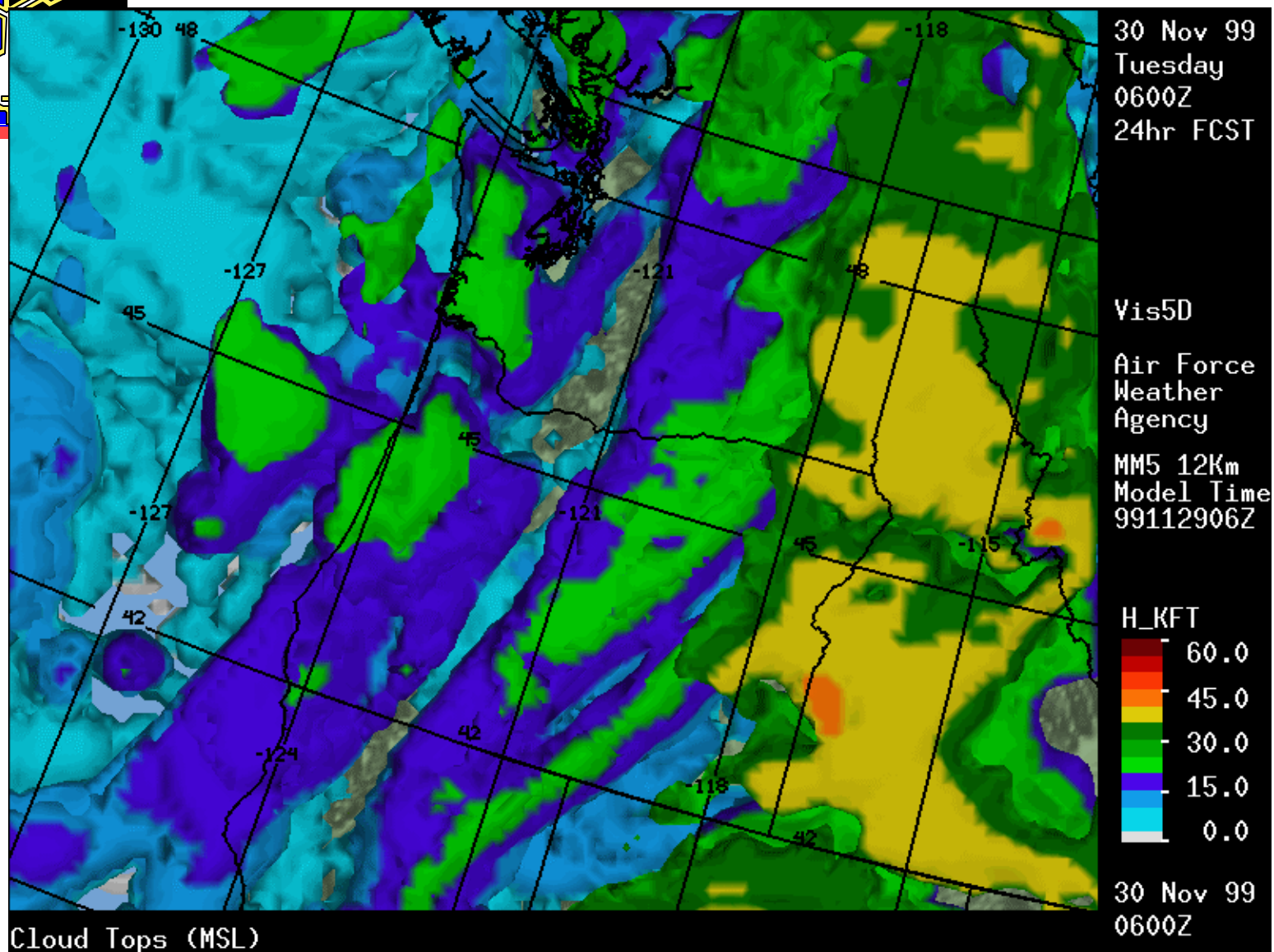


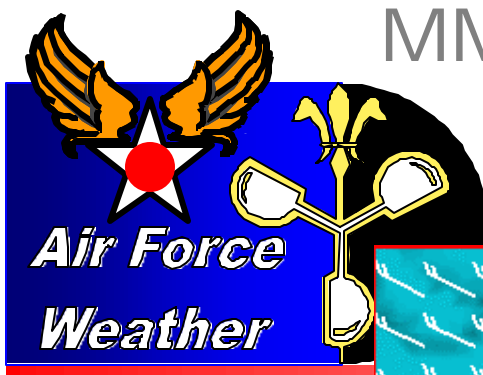




# MM5 12km Cloud Tops Image

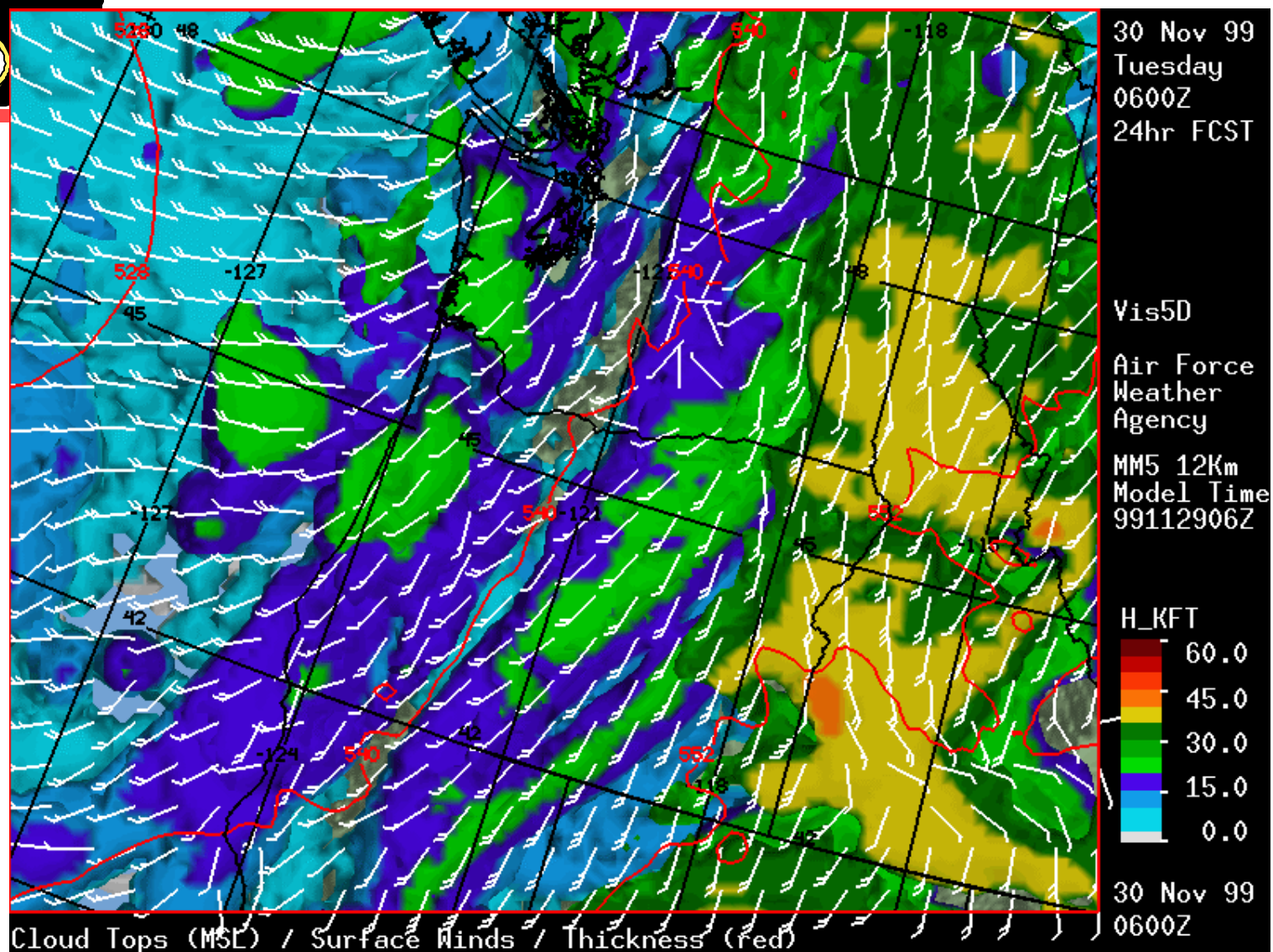
## 24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z



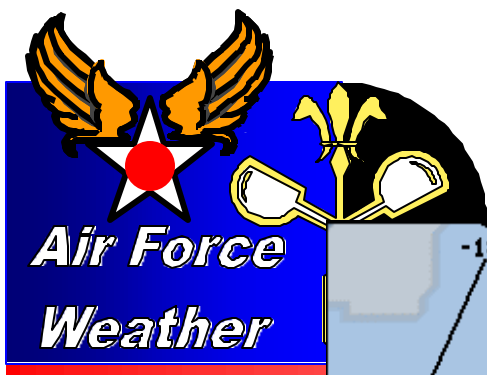


# MM5 12km Cloud Tops/Surface Winds

24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

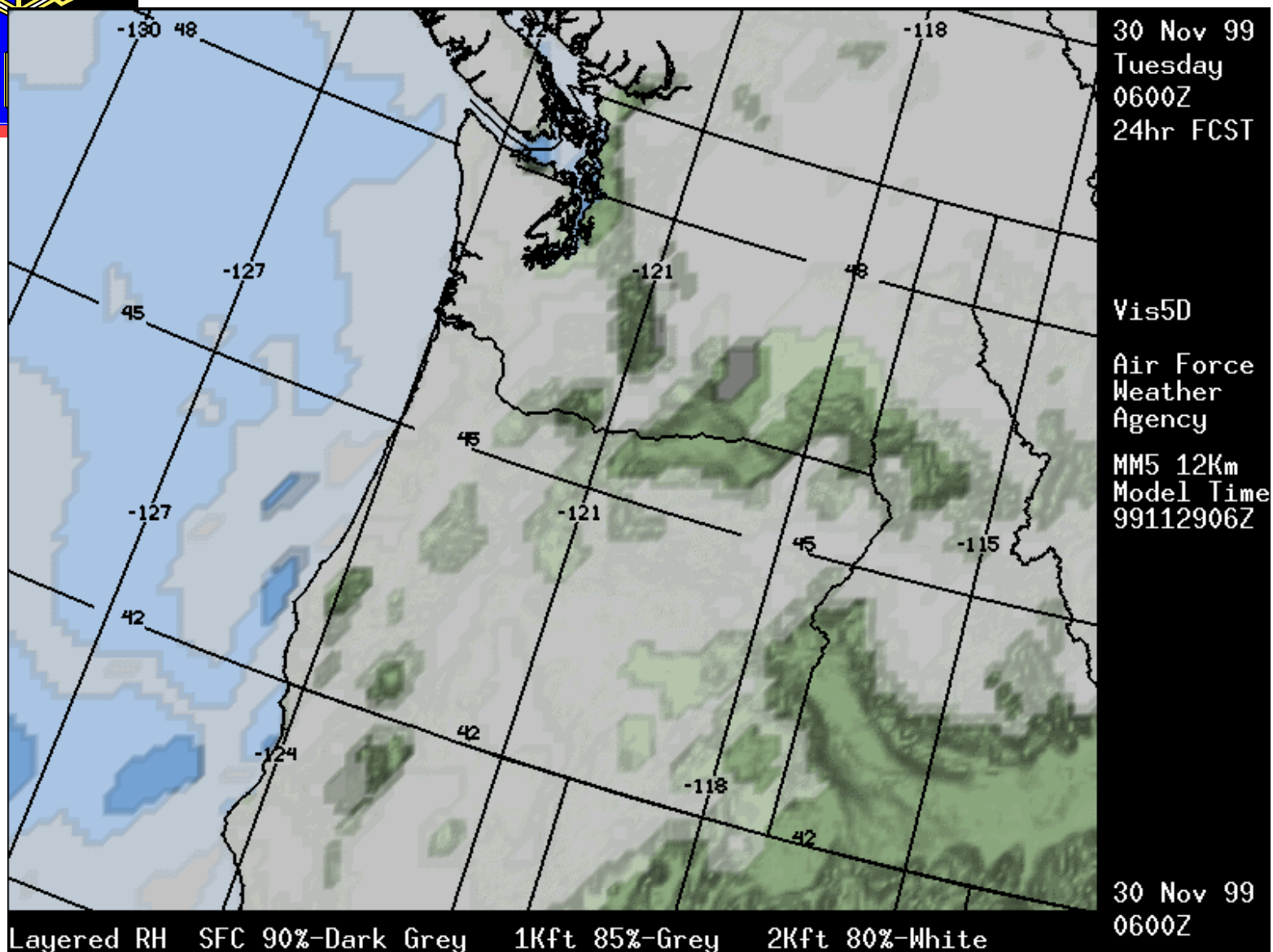


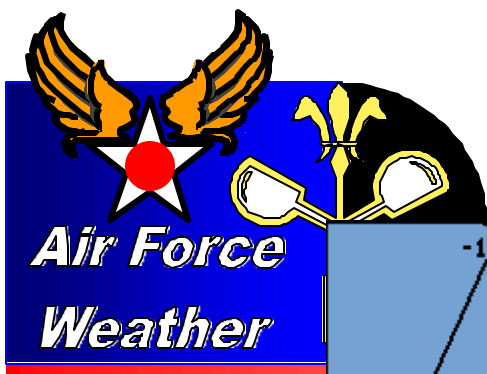




# MM5 12km Low Clouds and Fog

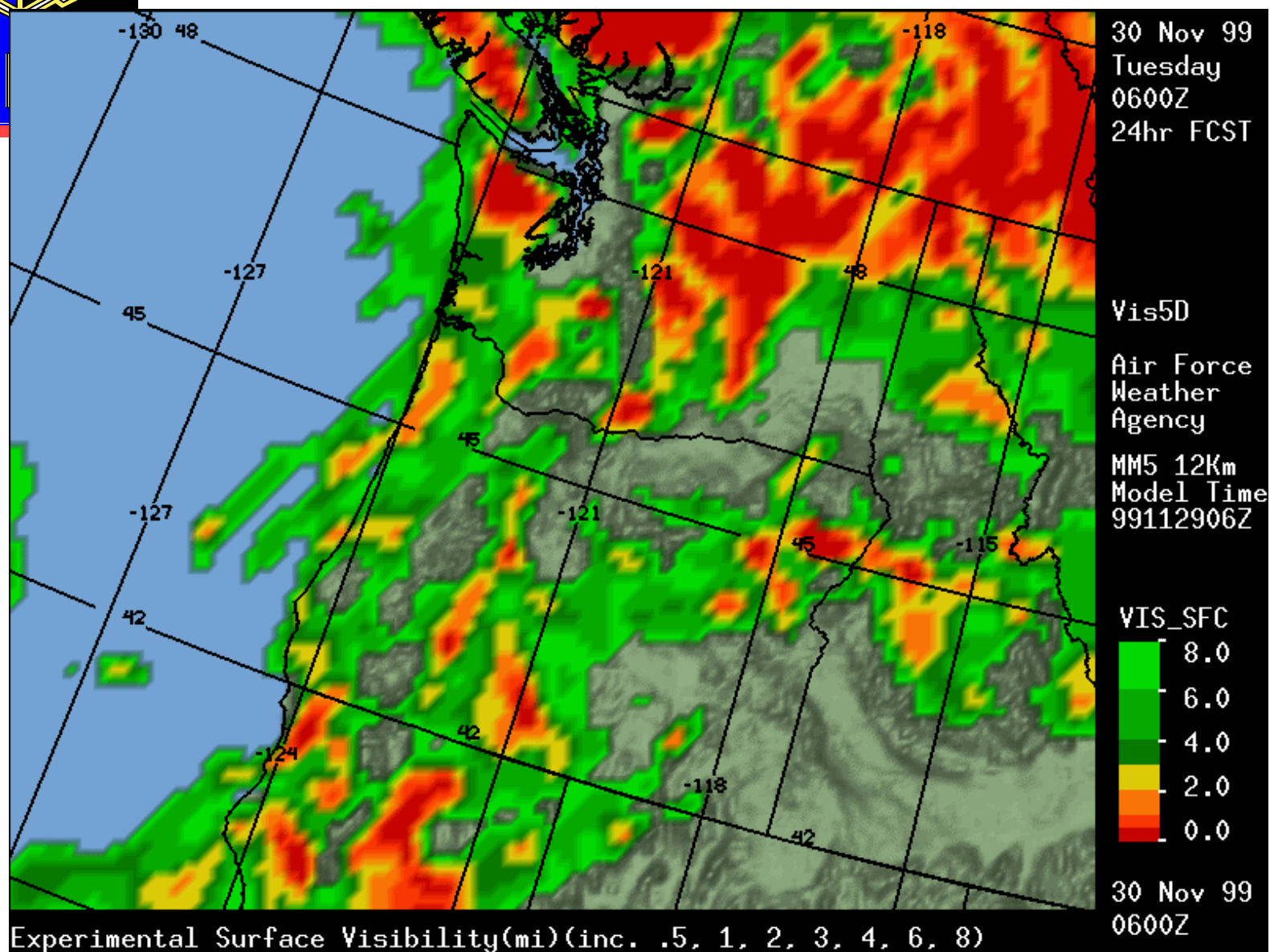
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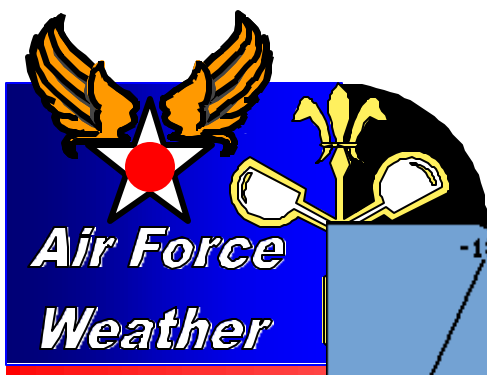




# MM5 12km Surface Visibility

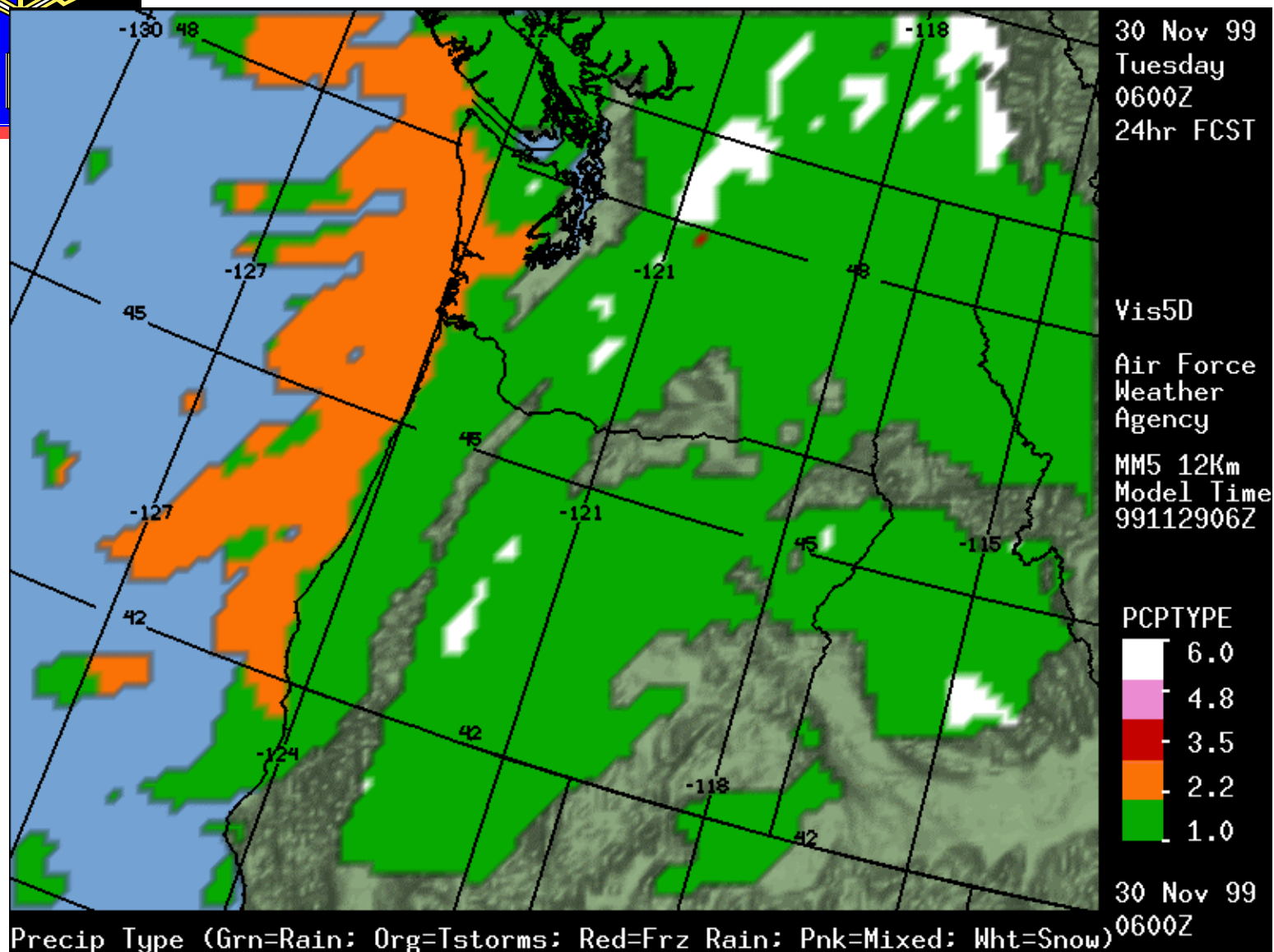
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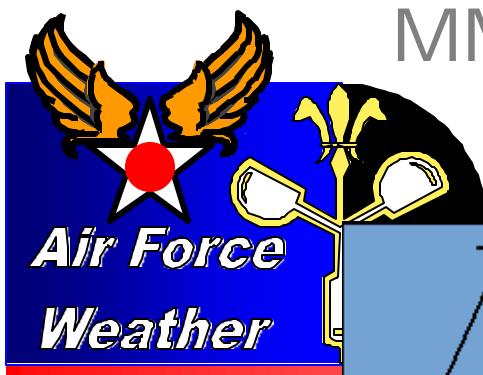


# MM5 12km Precipitation Type

24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

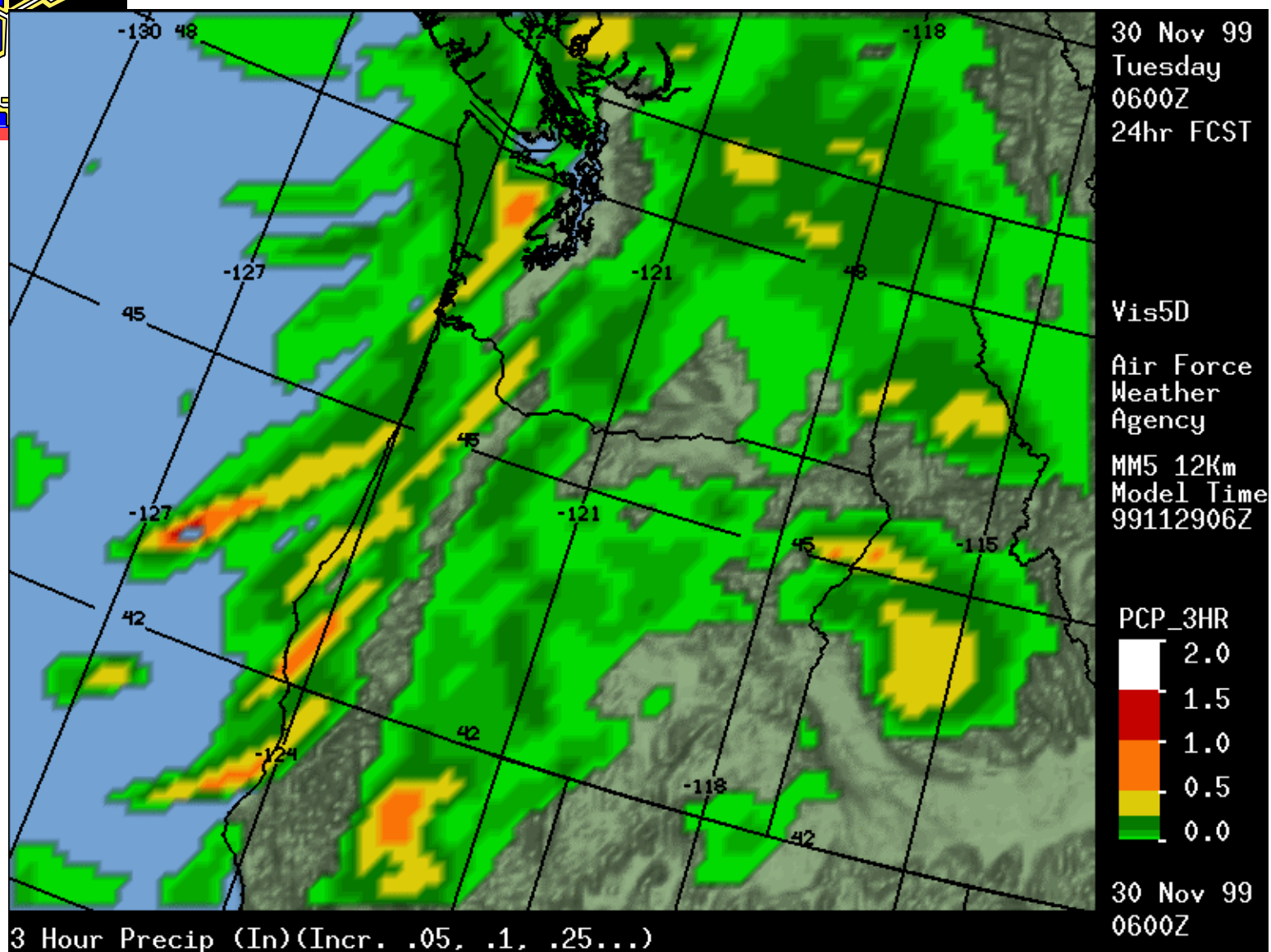






# MM5 12km 3 Hr Precip Accumulation

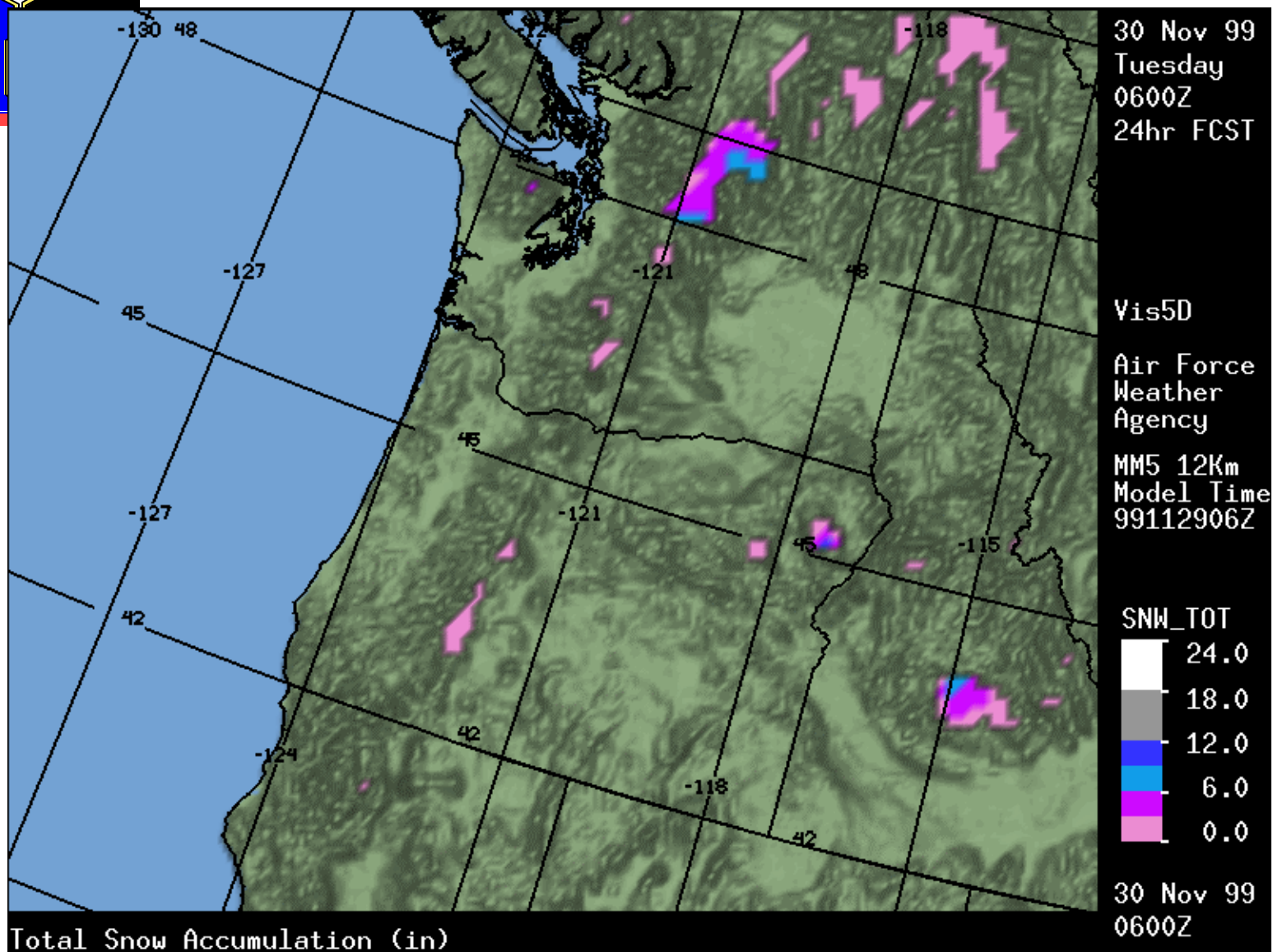
24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

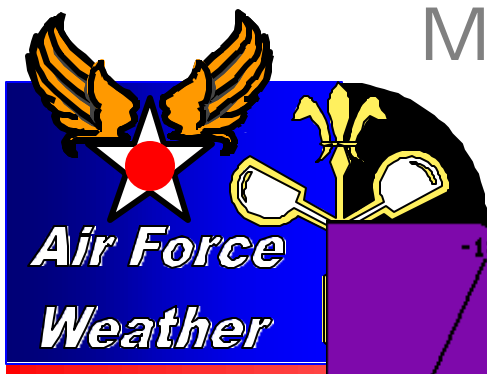




# MM5 12km Total Snow Accumulation

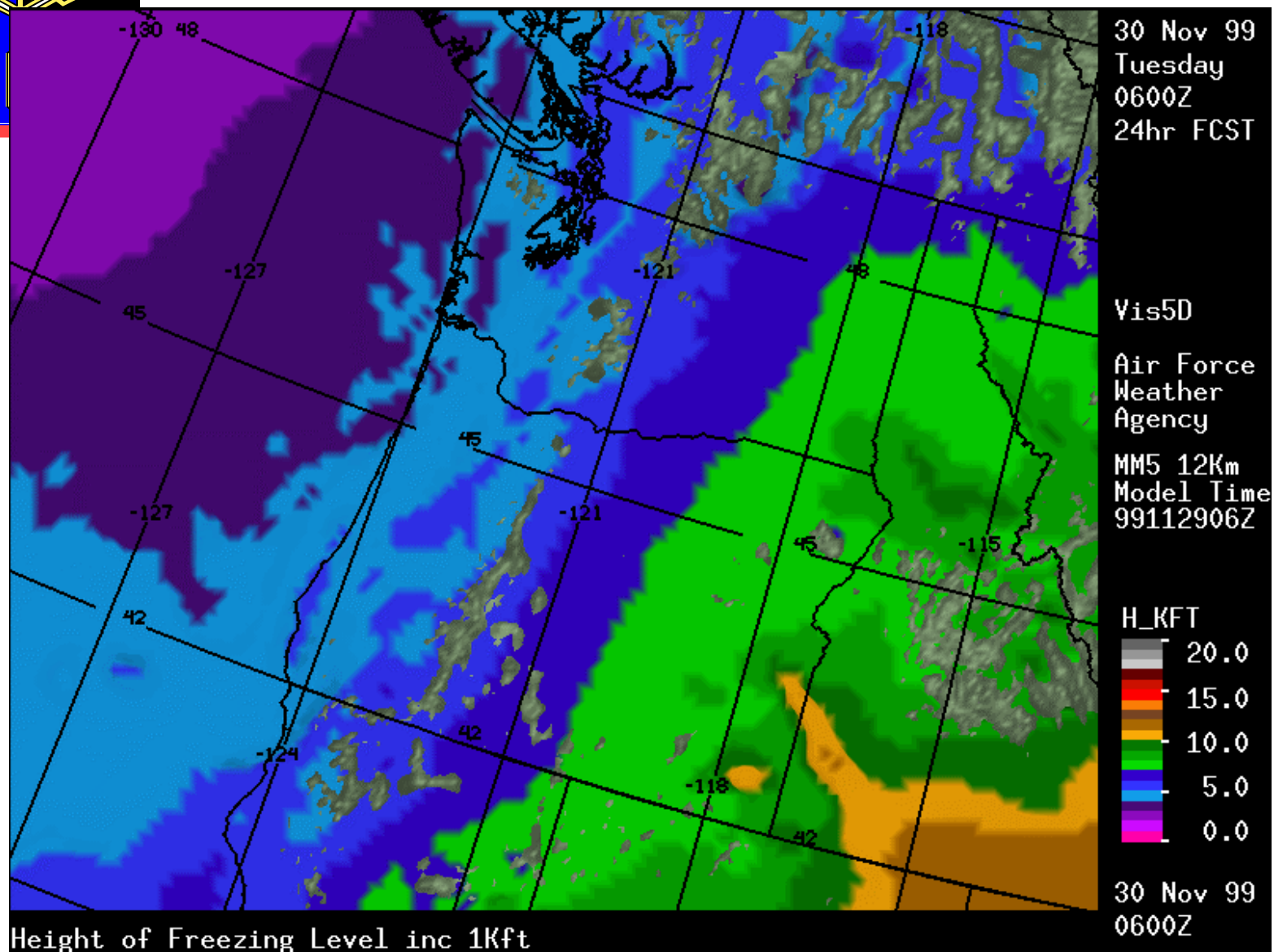
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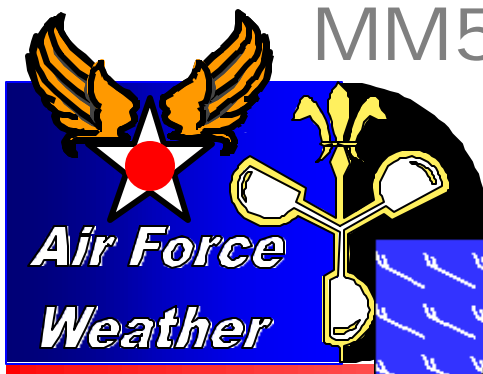


# MM5 12km Height of Freezing Level

24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

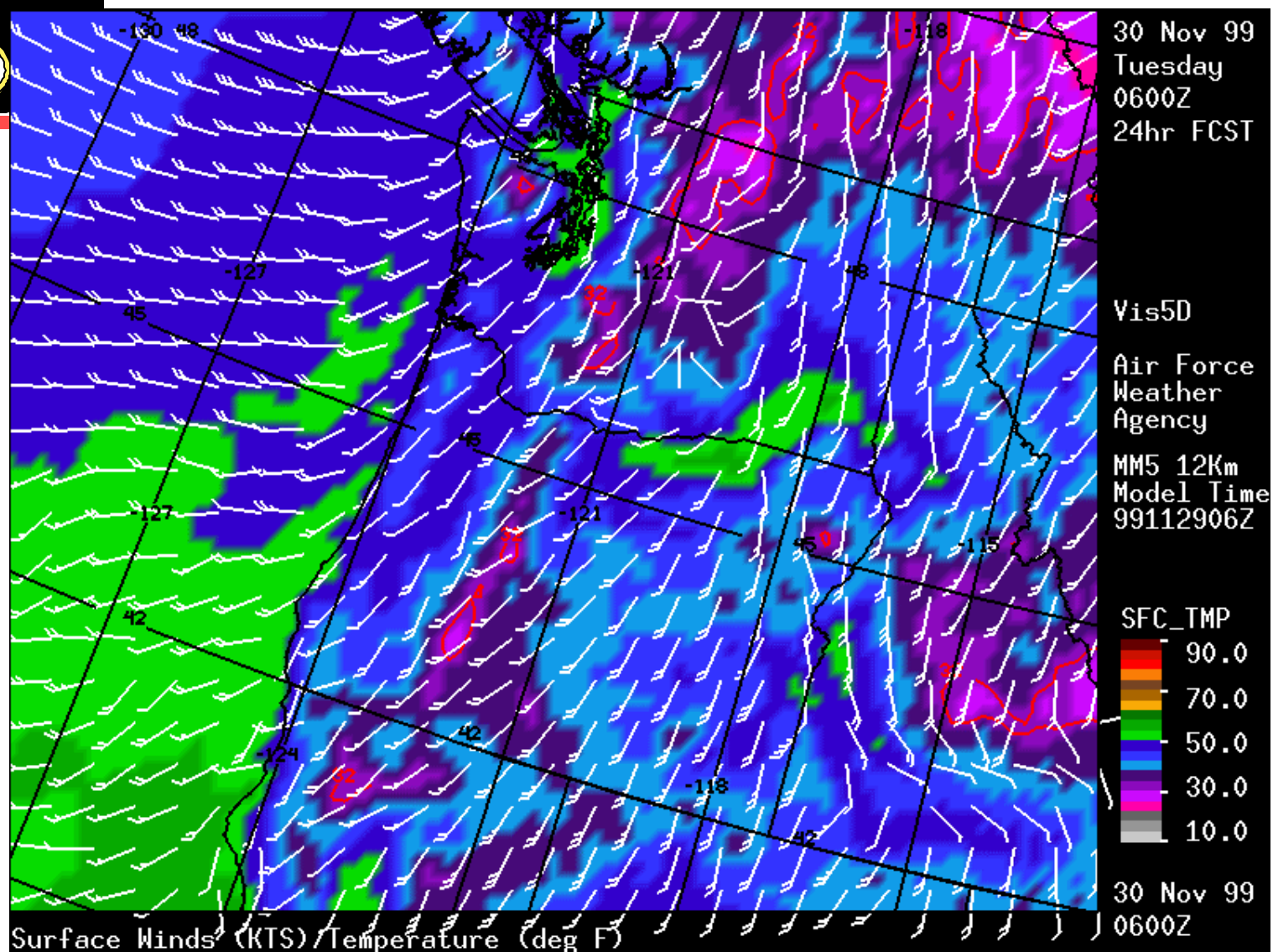


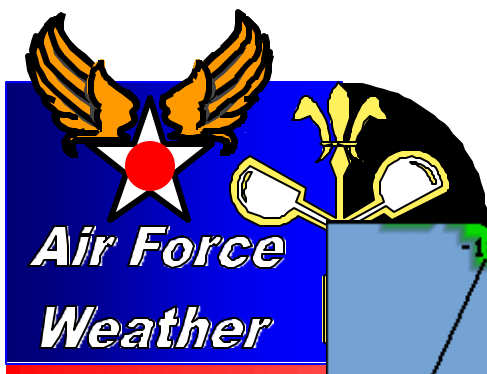




# MM5 12km Surface Winds/Temperature

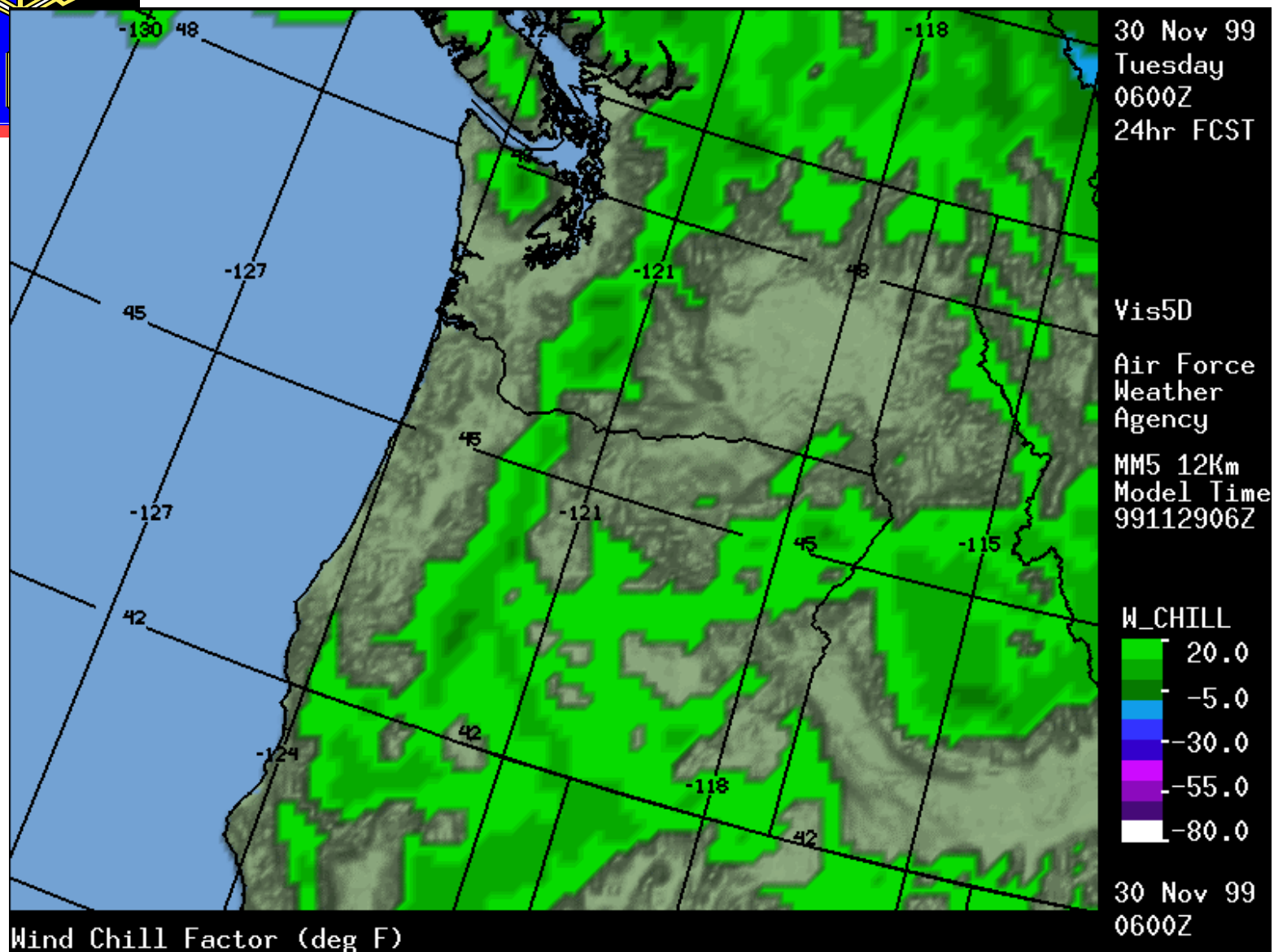
24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z





# MM5 12km Wind Chill Factor

24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z





# MM5 Meteogram Near Seattle

McChord AFB, WA

RMY: 16/34

36km  
Resolution

MM5 Gridpoint

Lat:47.347

Long:-122.284

Elev:321feet

Capped at 24kt

Relative Humidity (>70%)

Clouds

Temperature (C)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

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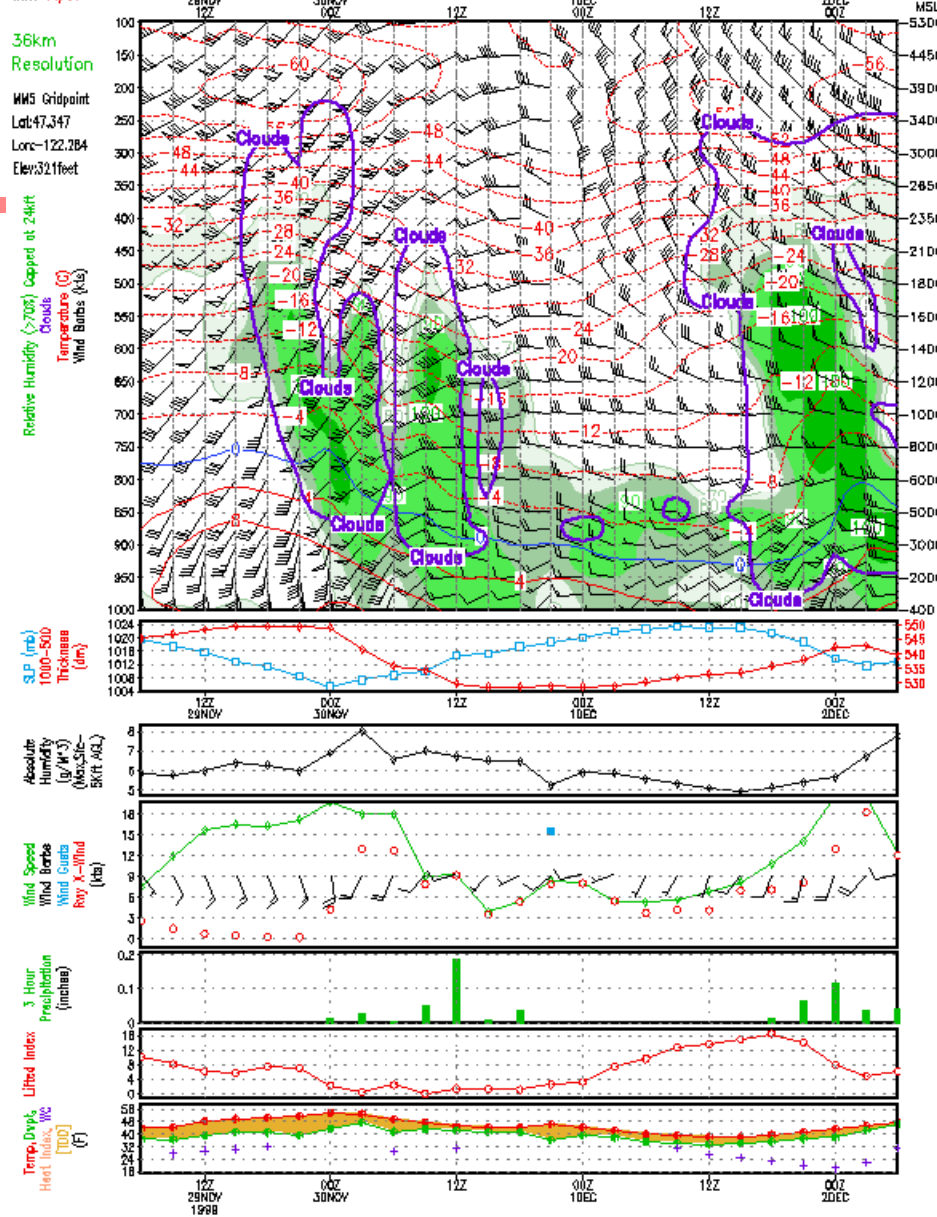
Wind Barbs (kts)

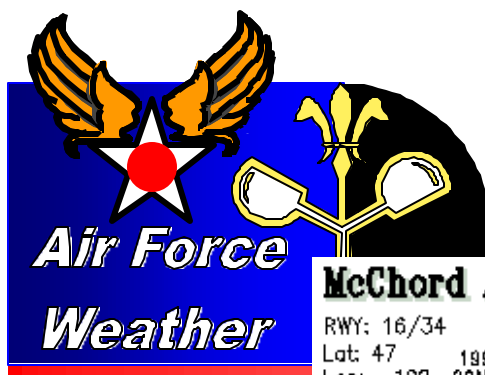
Wind Barbs (kts)

Wind Barbs (kts)

AFWA Forecast Meteogram

MM5 Model Cycle:1999112906Z





# NCEP MRF Meteogram Near Seattle

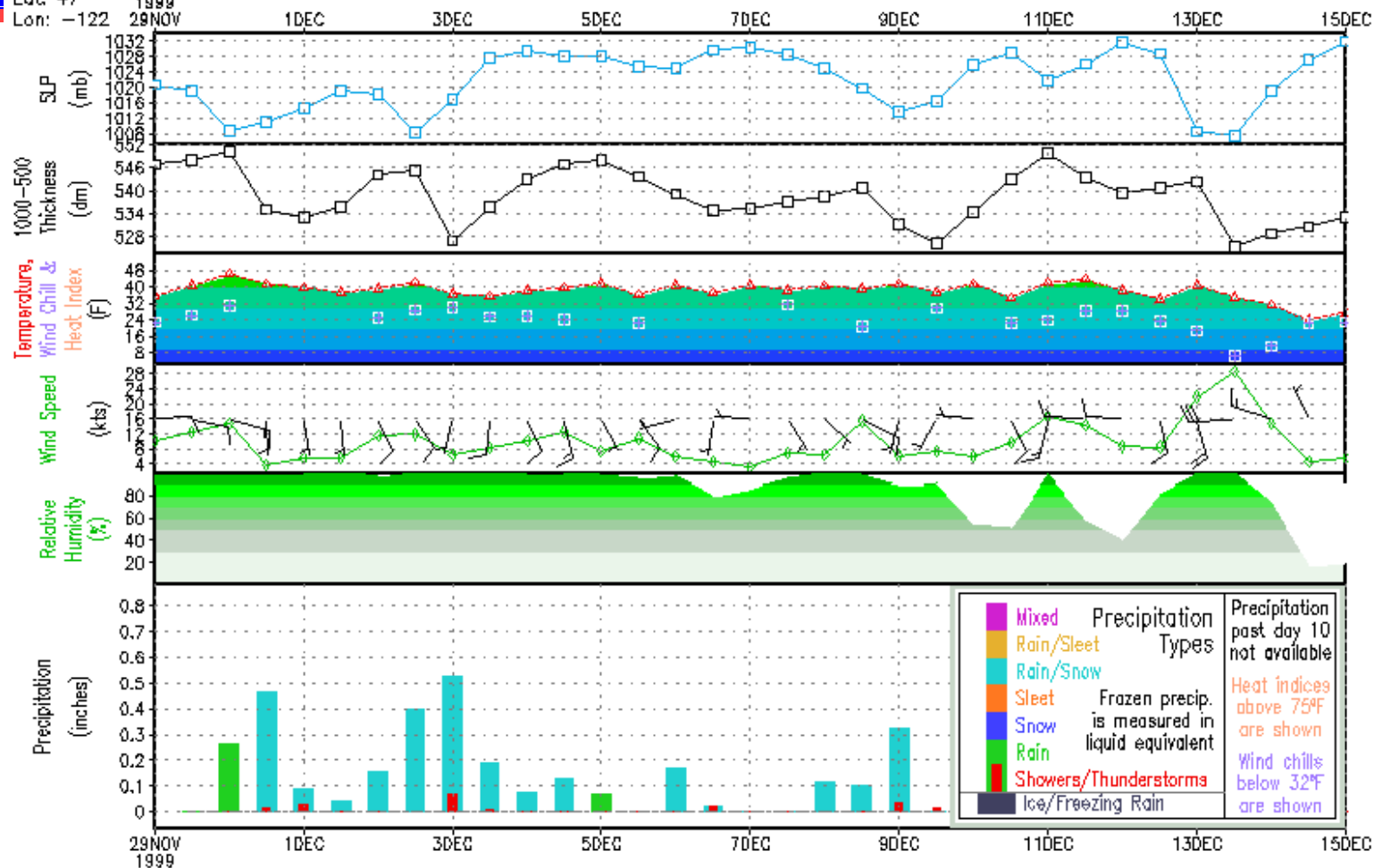
**McChord AFB, WA**

RWY: 16/34

Lat: 47

Lon: -122 29NOV

**AFWA Forecast Meteogram**  
NCEP MRF Model Cycle:1999112900Z



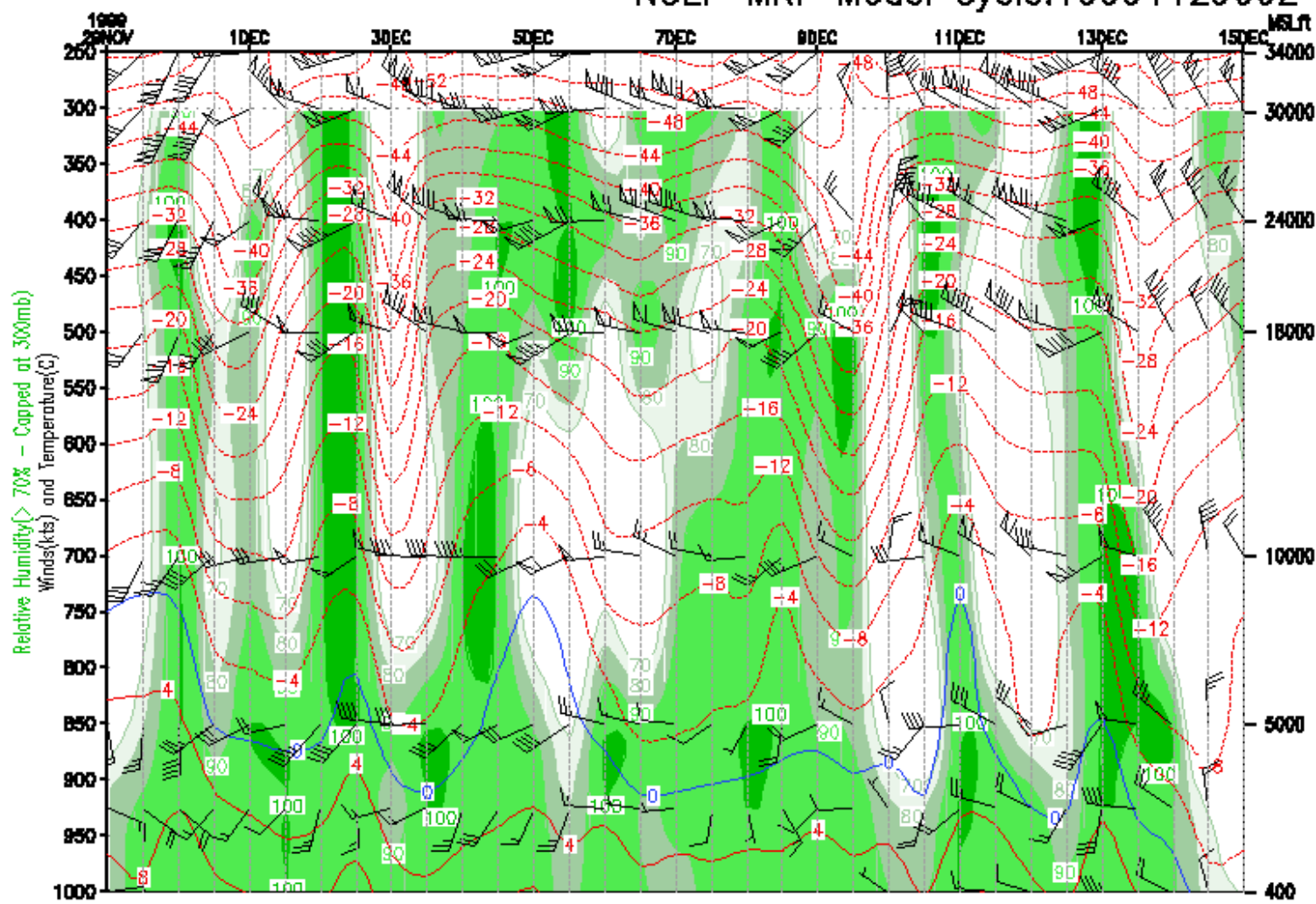




McChord AFB, WA

# MRF Upper Air Meteogram Near Seattle

AFWA Forecast Meteogram  
NCEP MRF Model Cycle:1999112900Z





# TECHNOLOGIES:

## Weather Effects Visualization (Result of AF-Army Partnering)

BAGHDAD, IQ

Iweda v3.1

System Weather Effects | [Print](#)

Main Menu

Previous

Refresh Wx Data

Help

Save

Exit

|            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| A-10       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AH-64      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OH-58D     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| UH-60      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| UAV        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PERSONNEL  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOW-GROUND |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NGT VSN    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

DATE/HOUR (Zulu Time):

22/20

23/02

23/08

23/14

LEGEND

Unfavorable

Marginal

Favorable

**IWEDA provides a stop-light representation of weather impacts on sensors, systems, platforms and operations at different times of the day based on critical value thresholds**



# WEATHER EFFECTS ON OPERATIONS

## KOSOVO DAY 1

CREATED: 23 MAY 0200Z

|             | 08Z |     |     |     |     |     | 14Z |     |     |     |     |     | 20Z |     |     |     |     |     | 24/02Z |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| STRATRECCE  | F   | F   | F   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG    | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG |
| HI TACRECCE | F   | F   | F   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG    | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG |
| LO TACRECCE | M   | M   | M   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | VIS | VIS | VIS | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG    | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG |
| CAS         | F   | F   | F   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG    | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG |
| HELO OPS    | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F      | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   |
| TAC AIRLIFT | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F      | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   |
| PERSONNEL   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   | F      | F   | F   | F   | F   | F   |
| GROUND OPS  | F   | F   | F   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | M   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND    | GND | GND | GND | GND | GND |
| PGMs        | F   | F   | F   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   | U      | U   | U   | U   | U   | U   |
|             | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG    | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG | CIG |



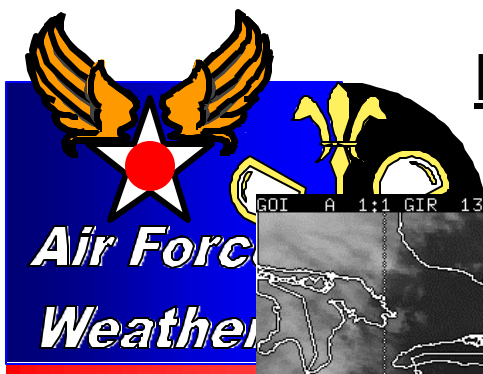
FAVORABLE



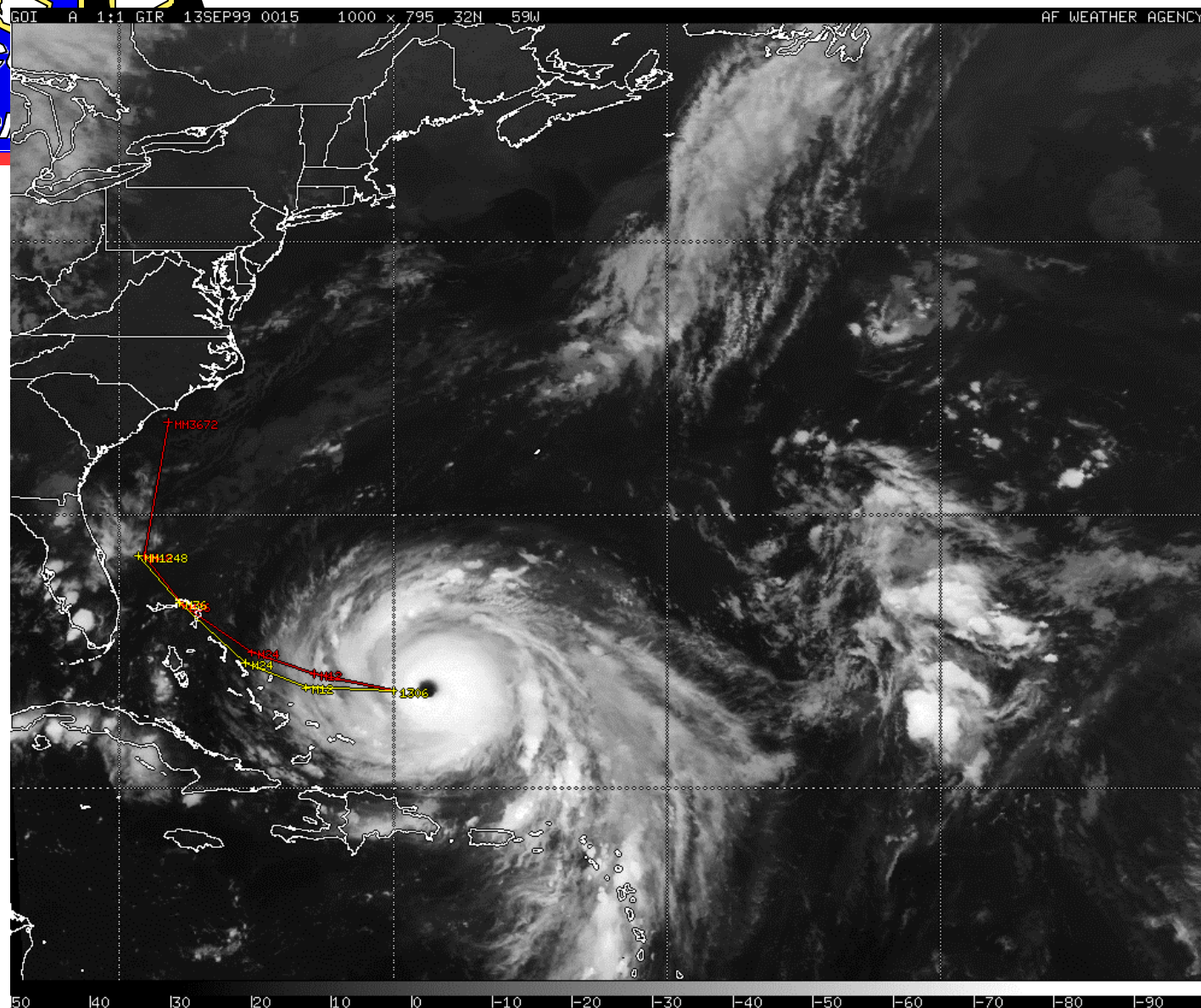
MARGINAL



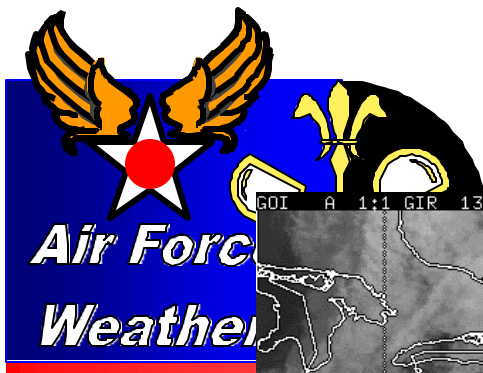
UNFAVORABLE



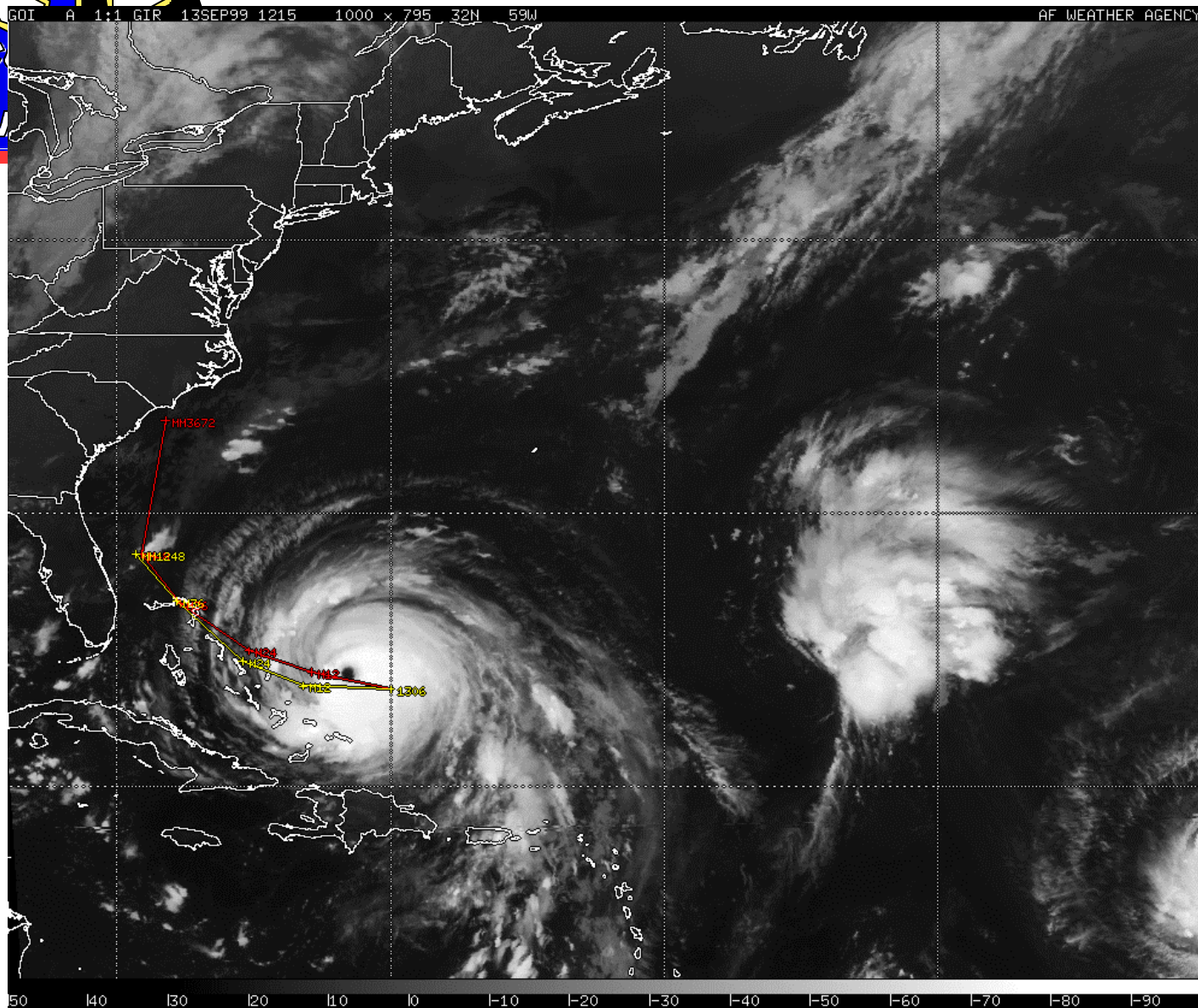
# Hurricane Floyd - 13 September 1999, 0000Z



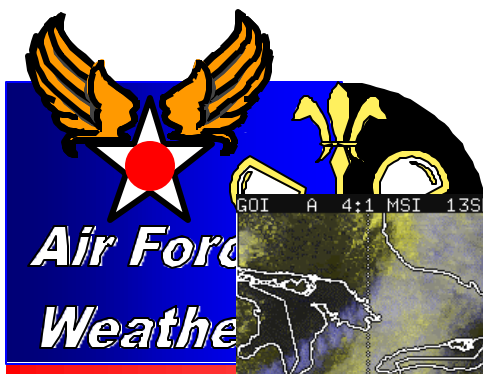




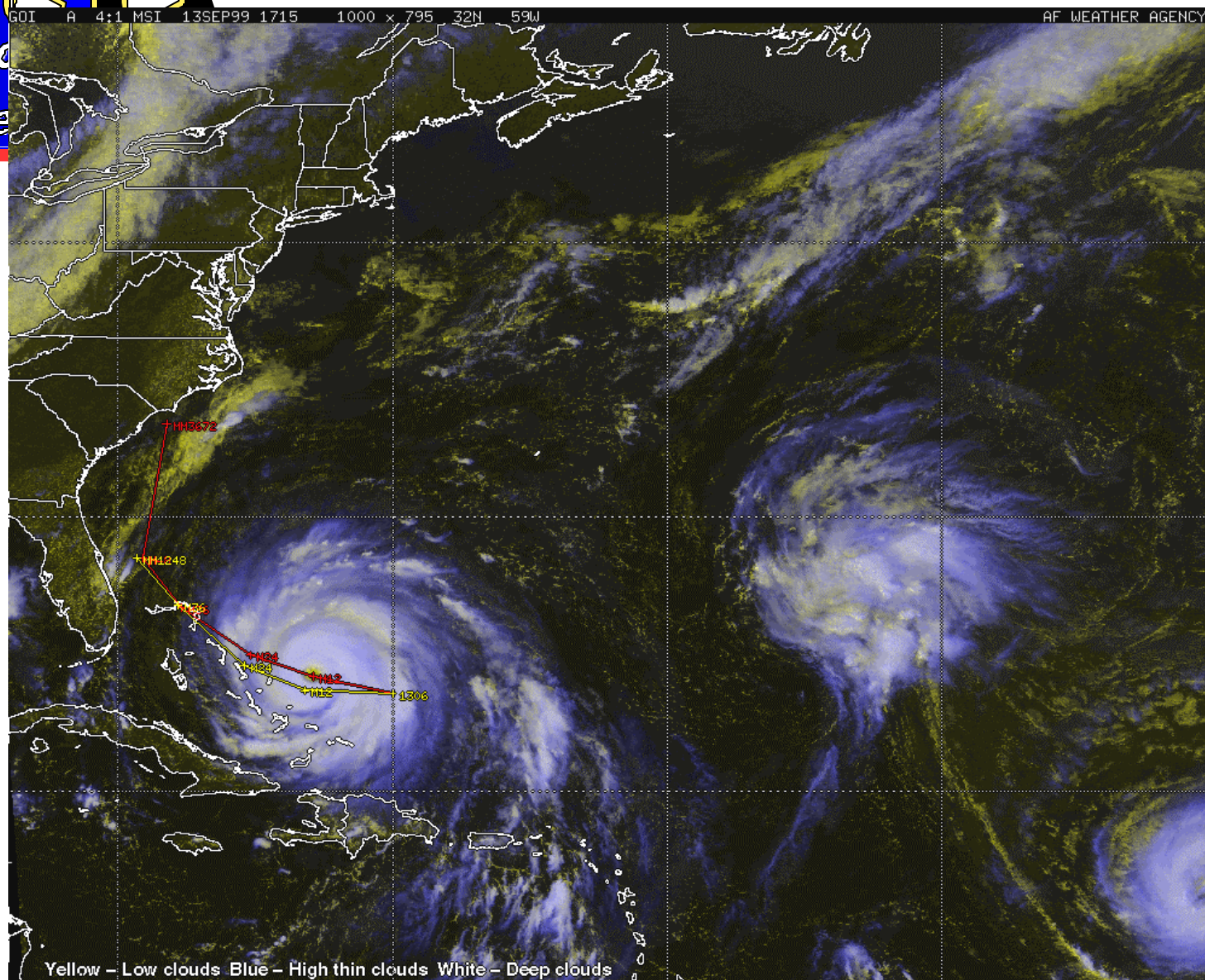
# Hurricane Floyd - 13 September 1999, 1200Z



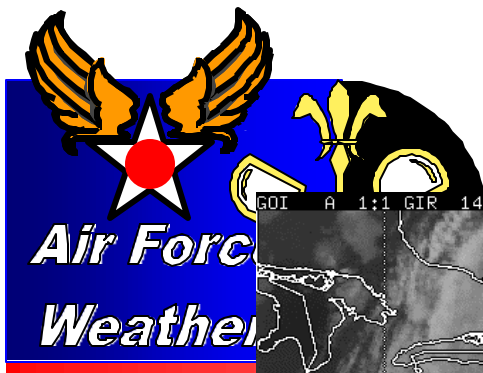




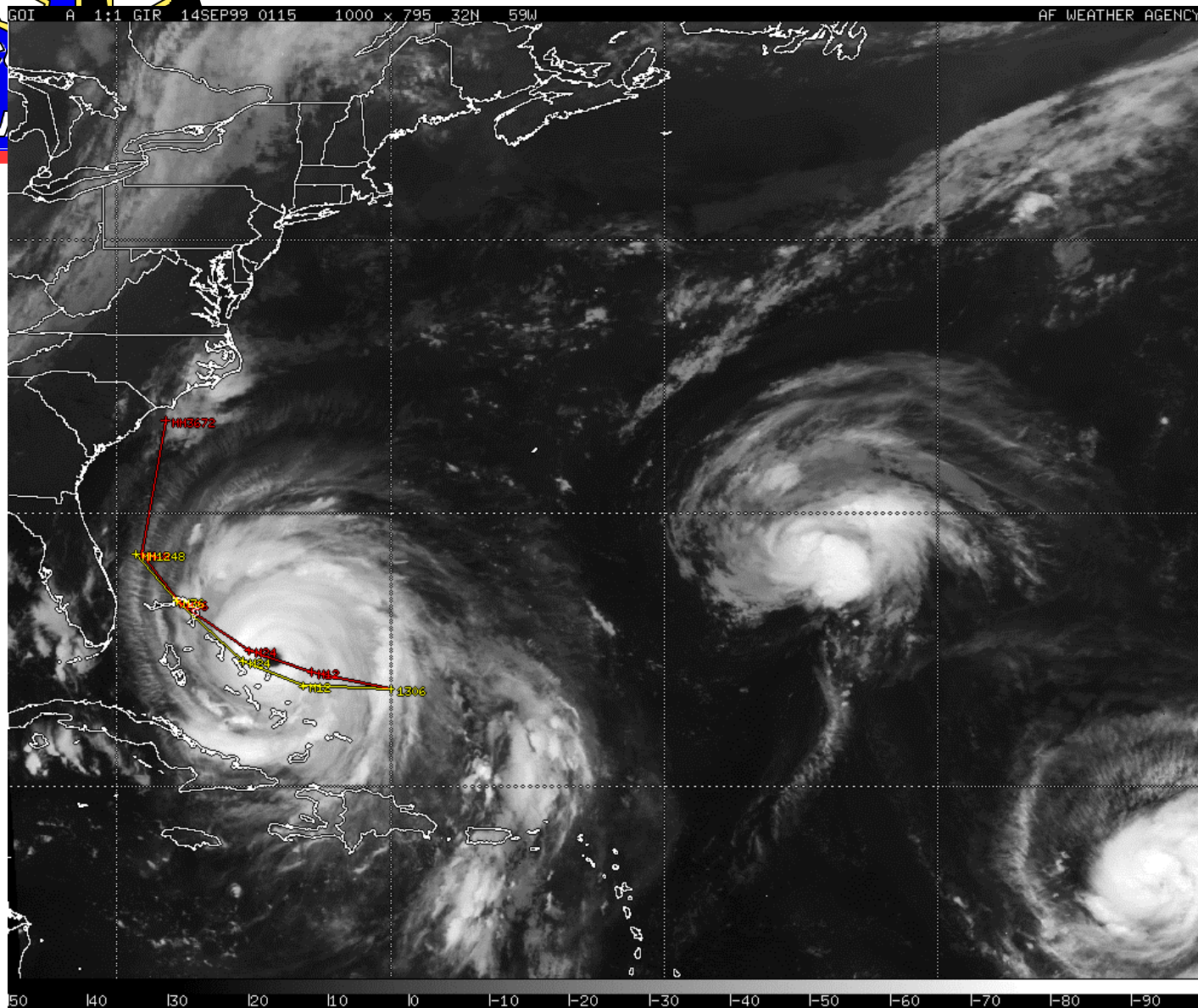
# Hurricane Floyd - 13 September 1999, 1800Z

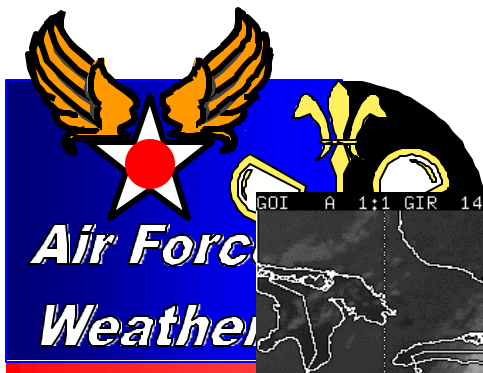




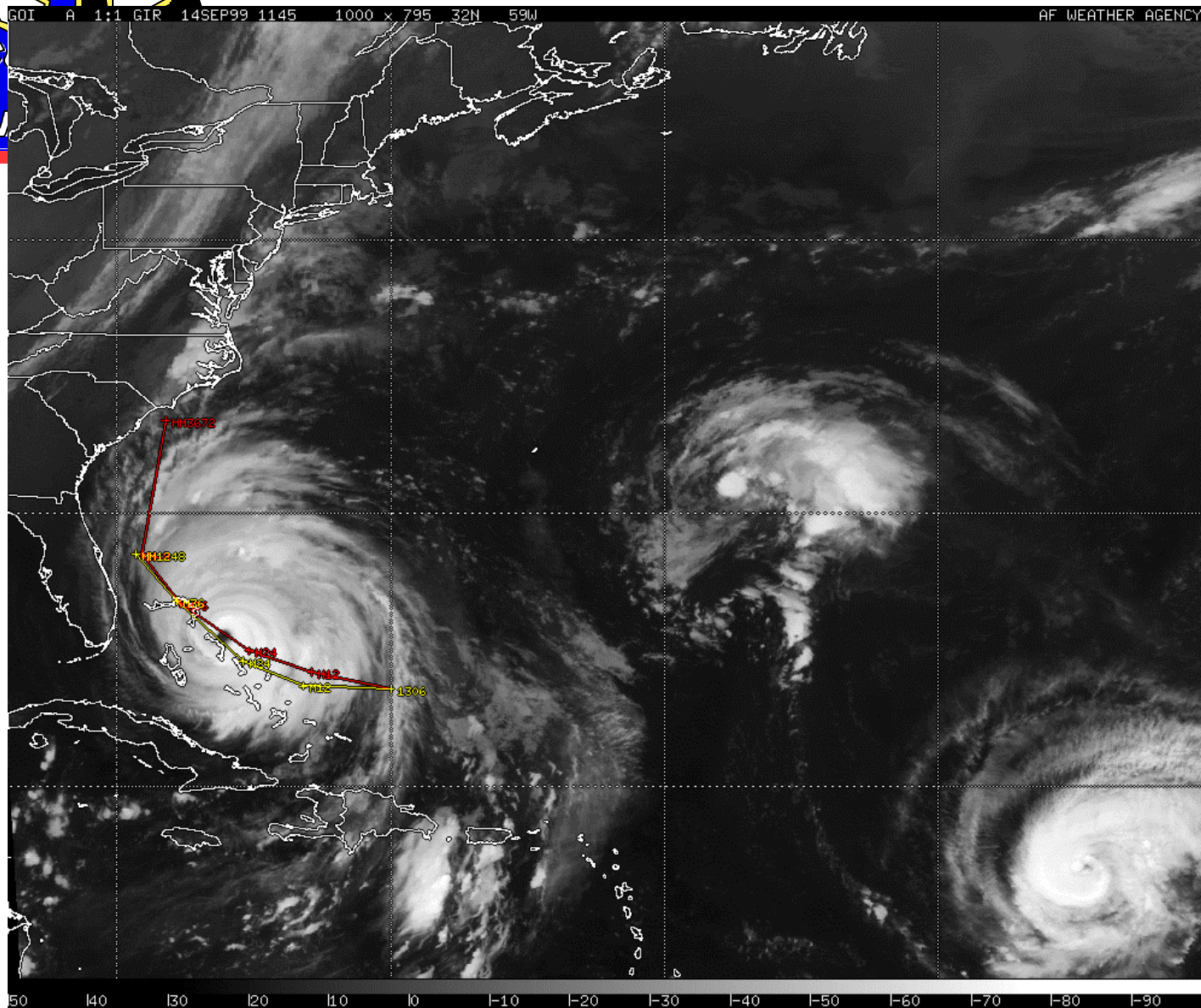


# Hurricane Floyd - 14 September 1999, 0000Z

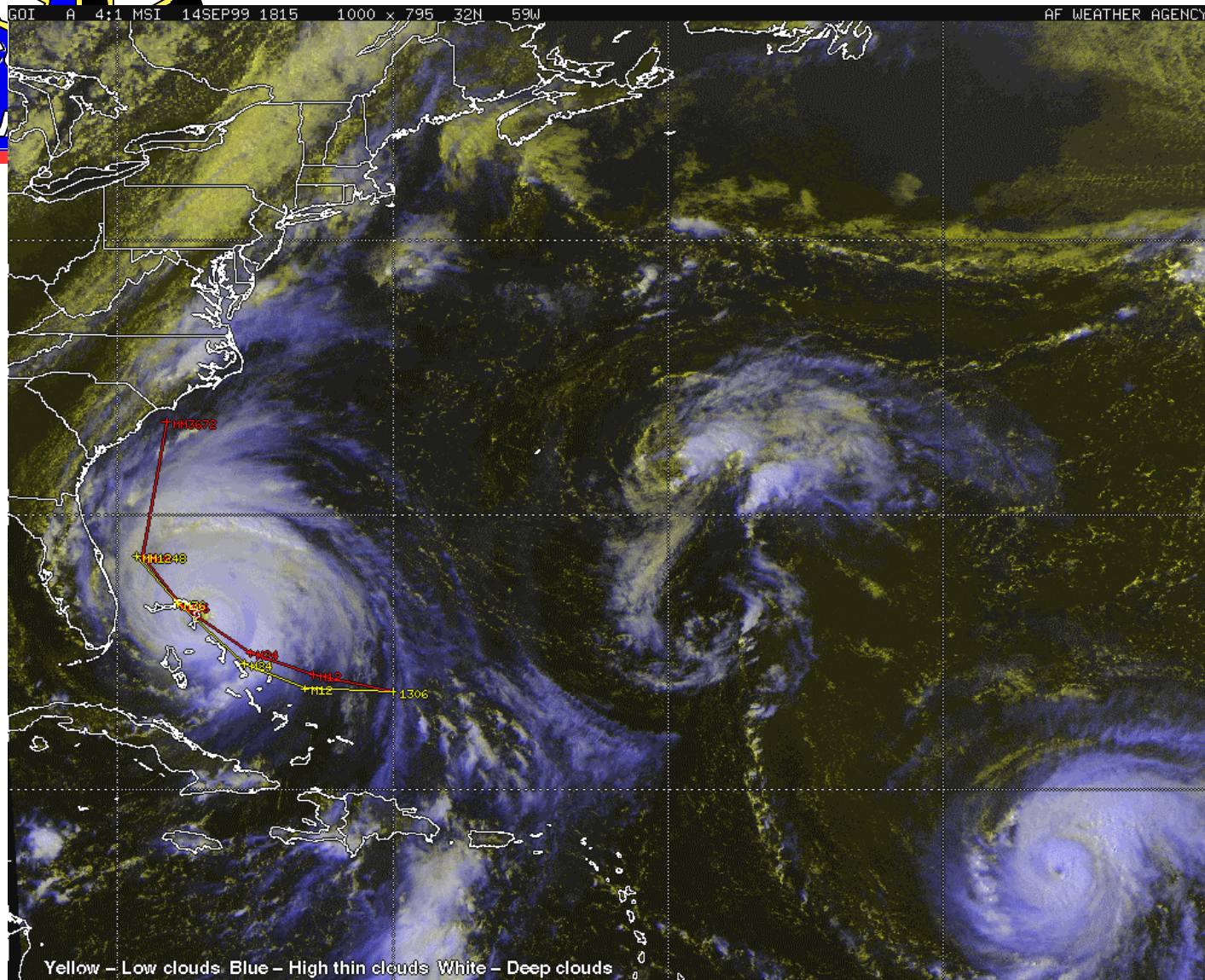




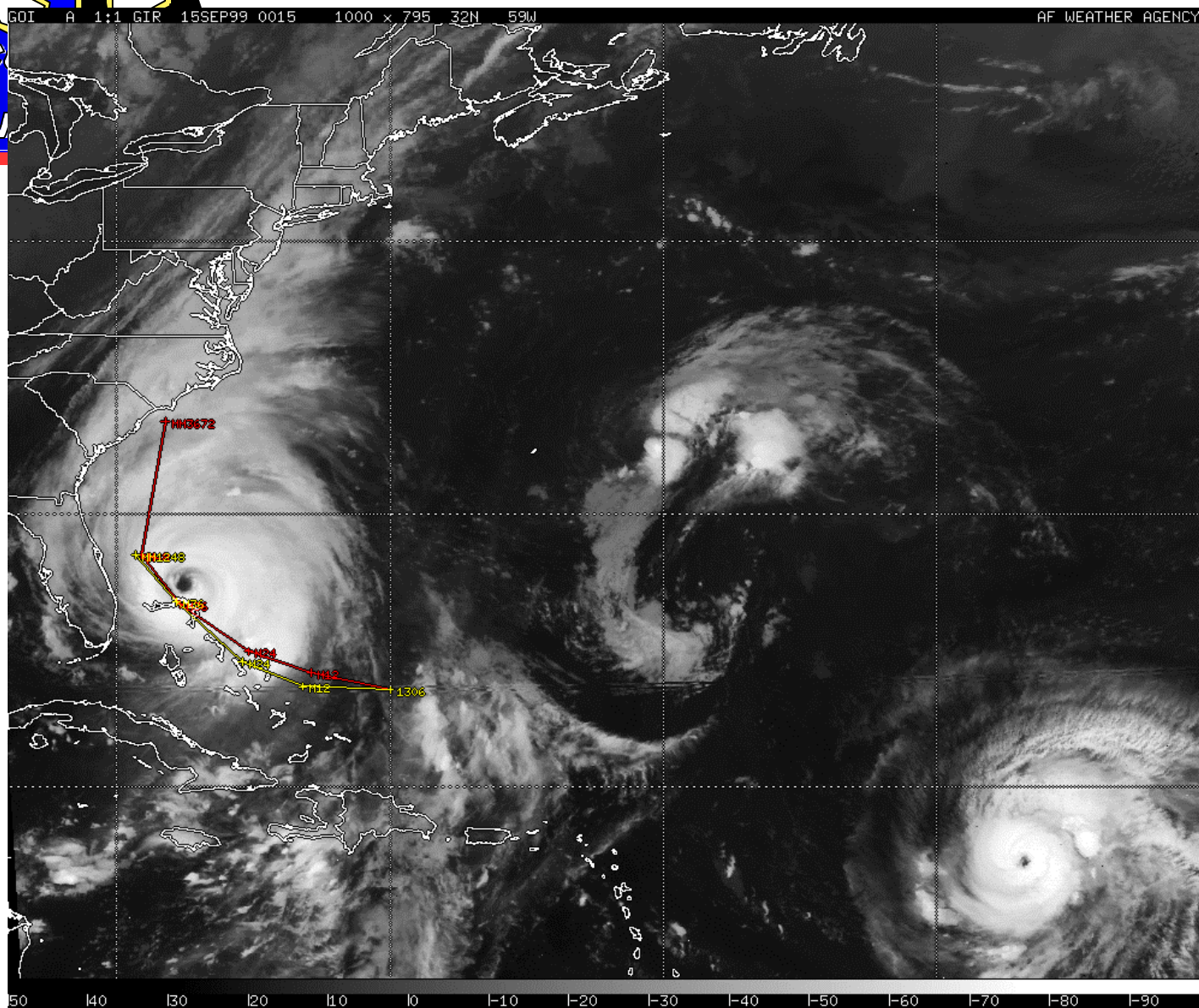
# Hurricane Floyd - 14 September 1999, 1200Z

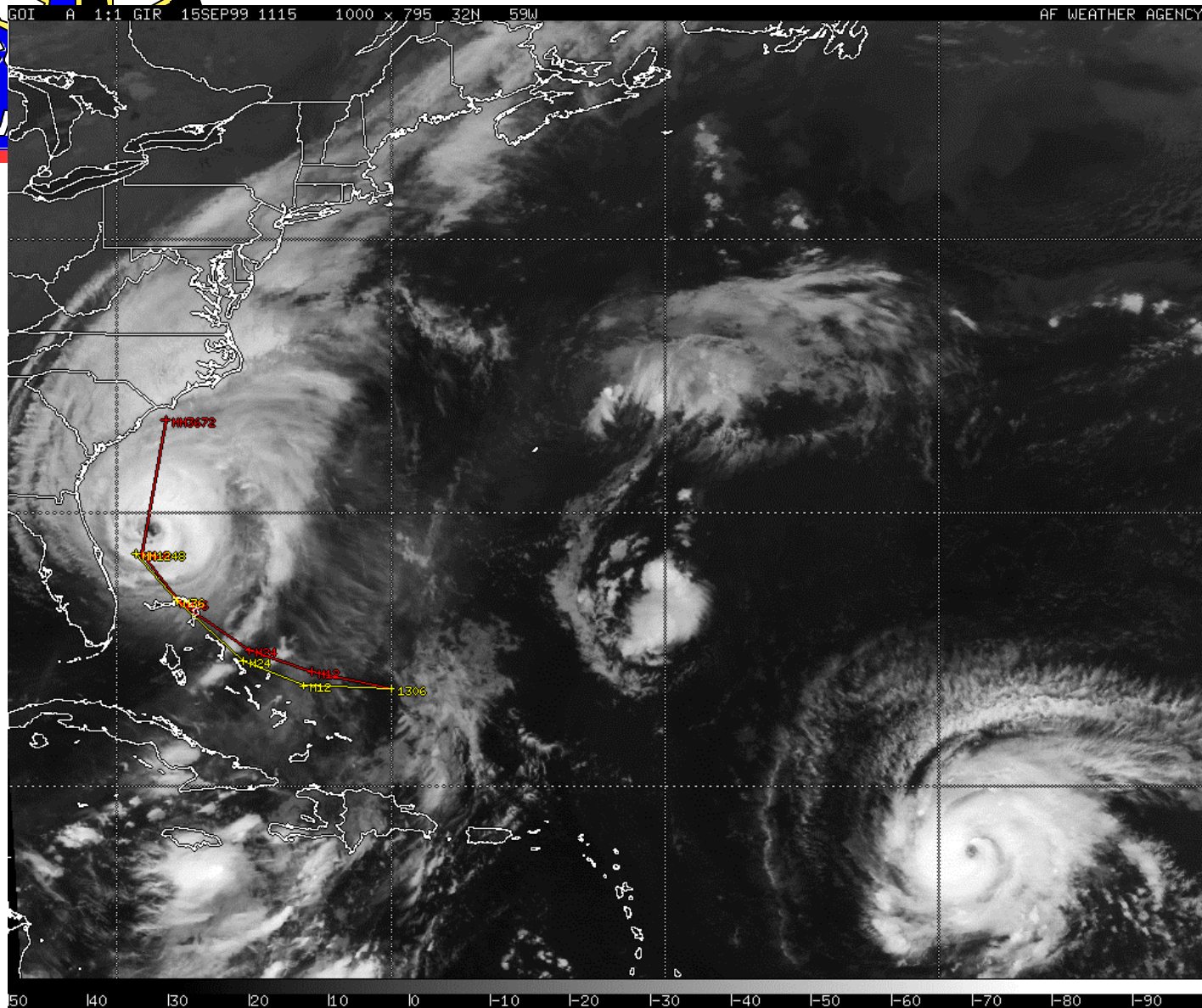










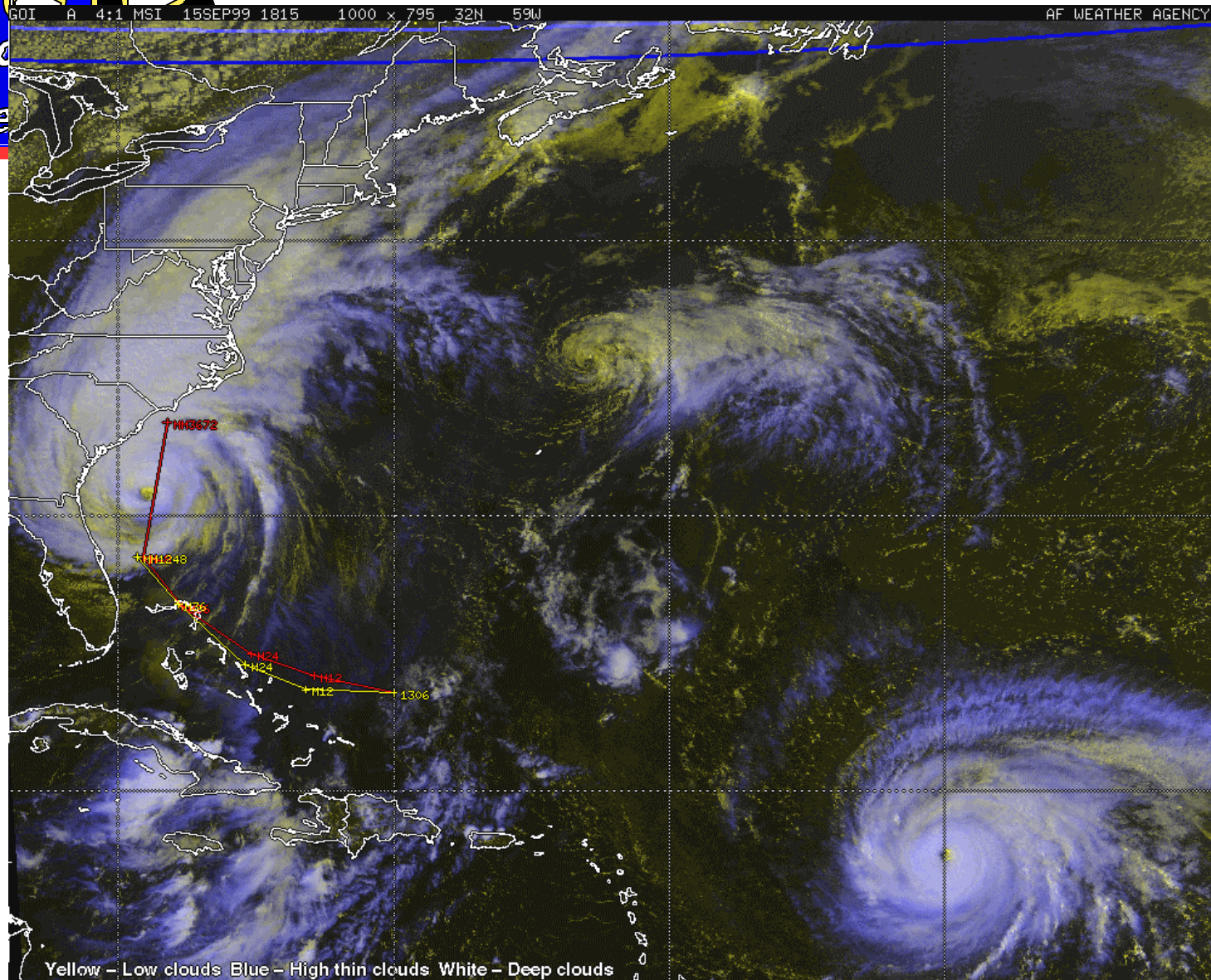




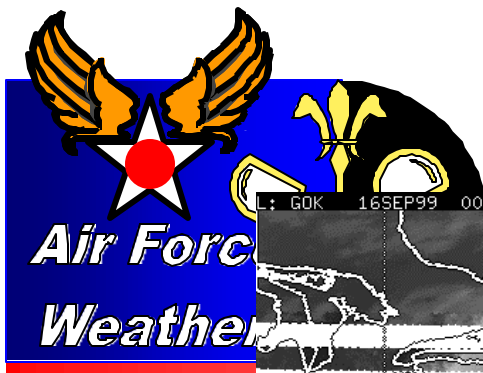


**Air Force  
Weather**

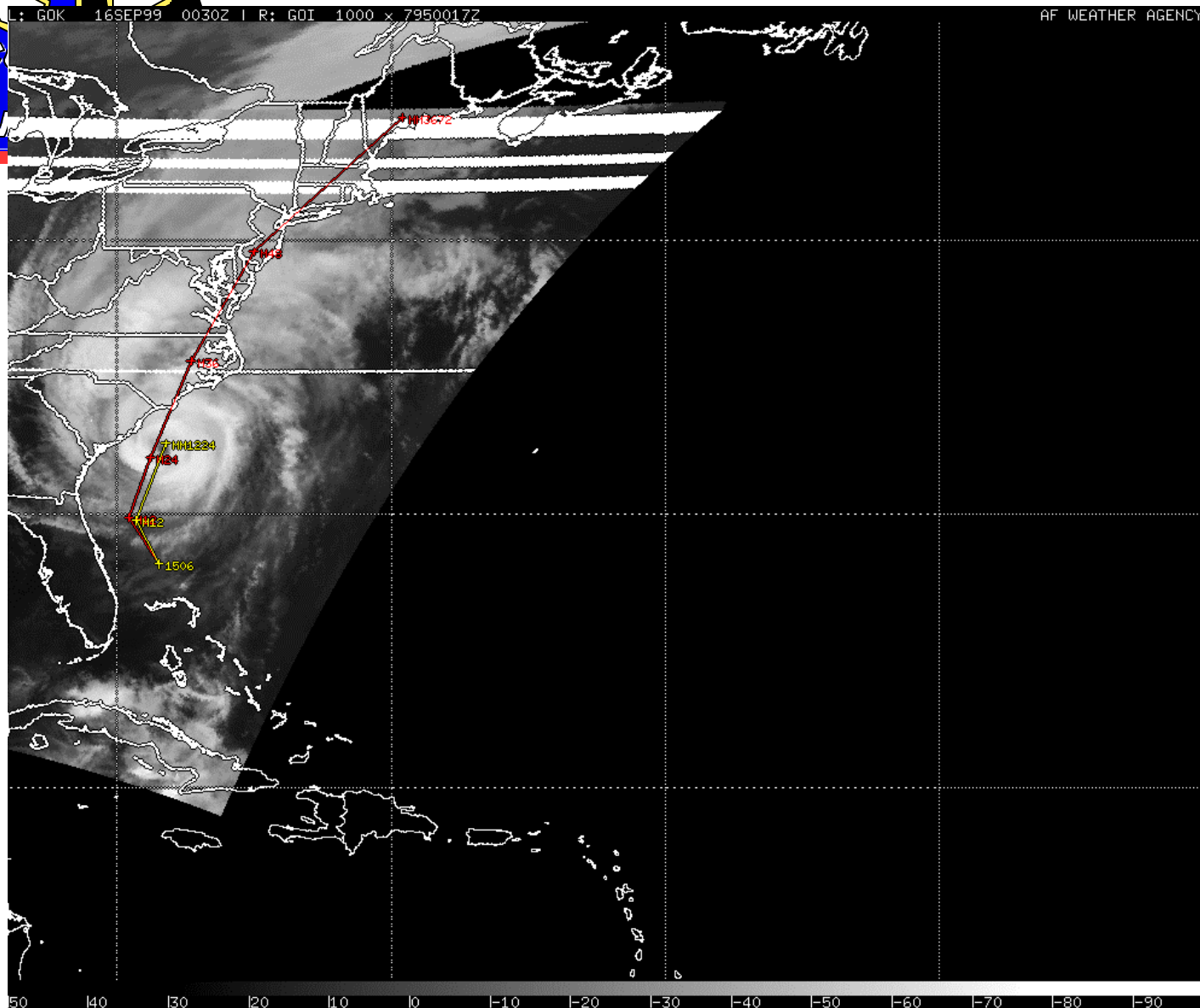
# Hurricane Floyd - 15 September 1999, 1800Z

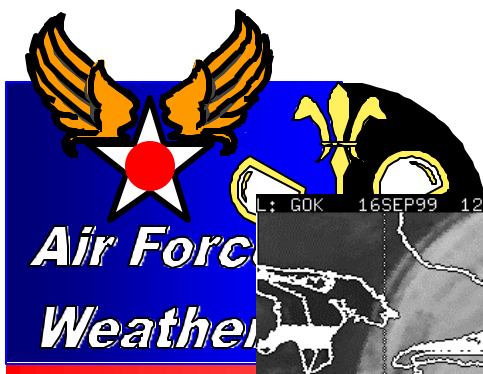




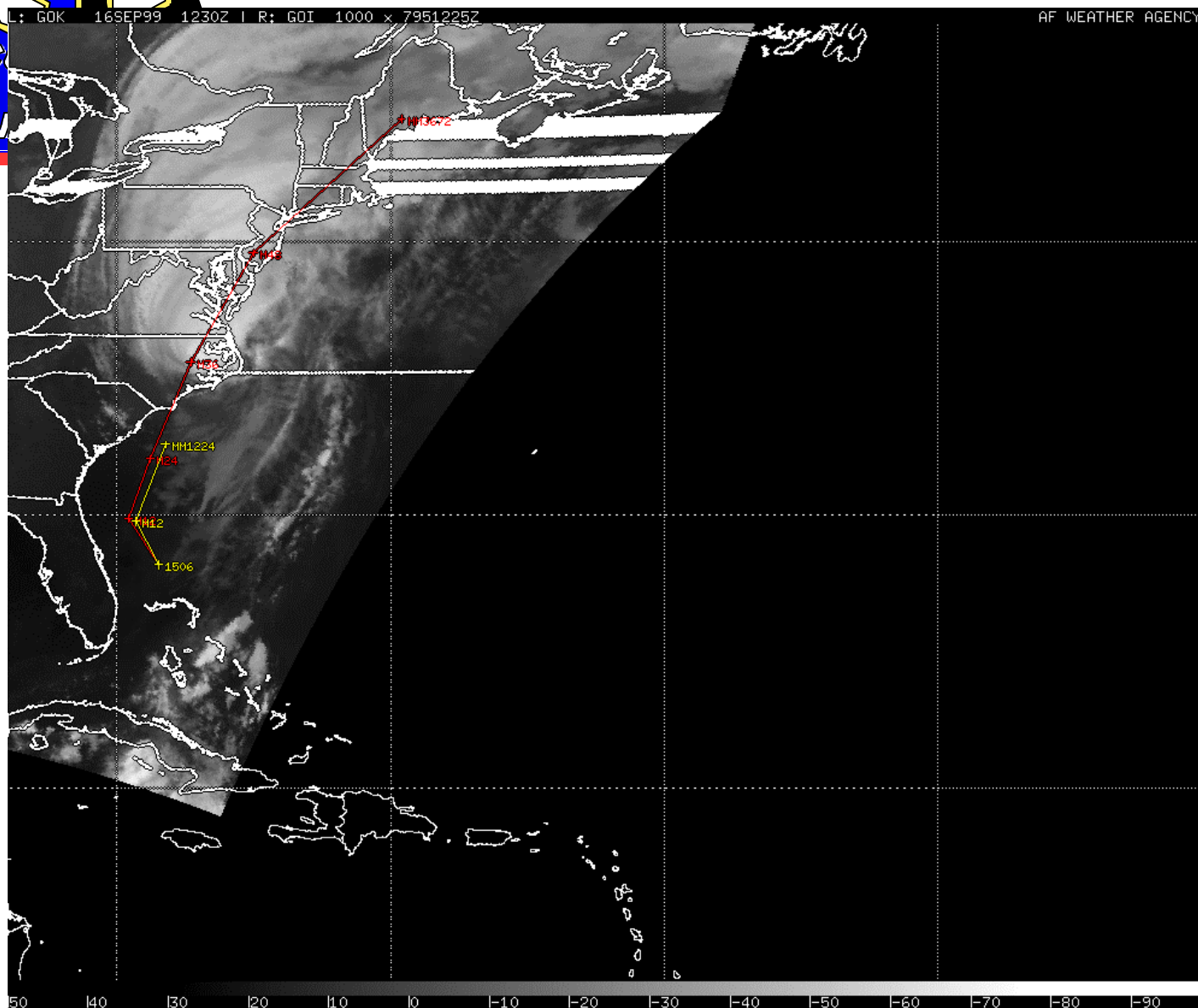


# Hurricane Floyd - 16 September 1999, 0000Z

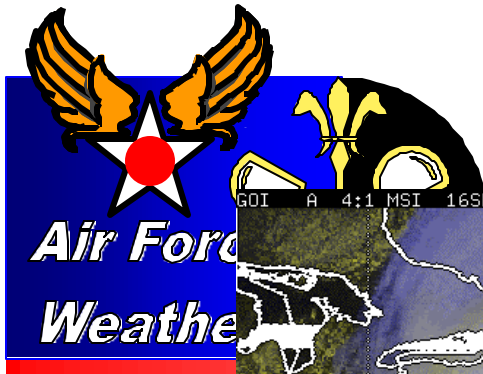




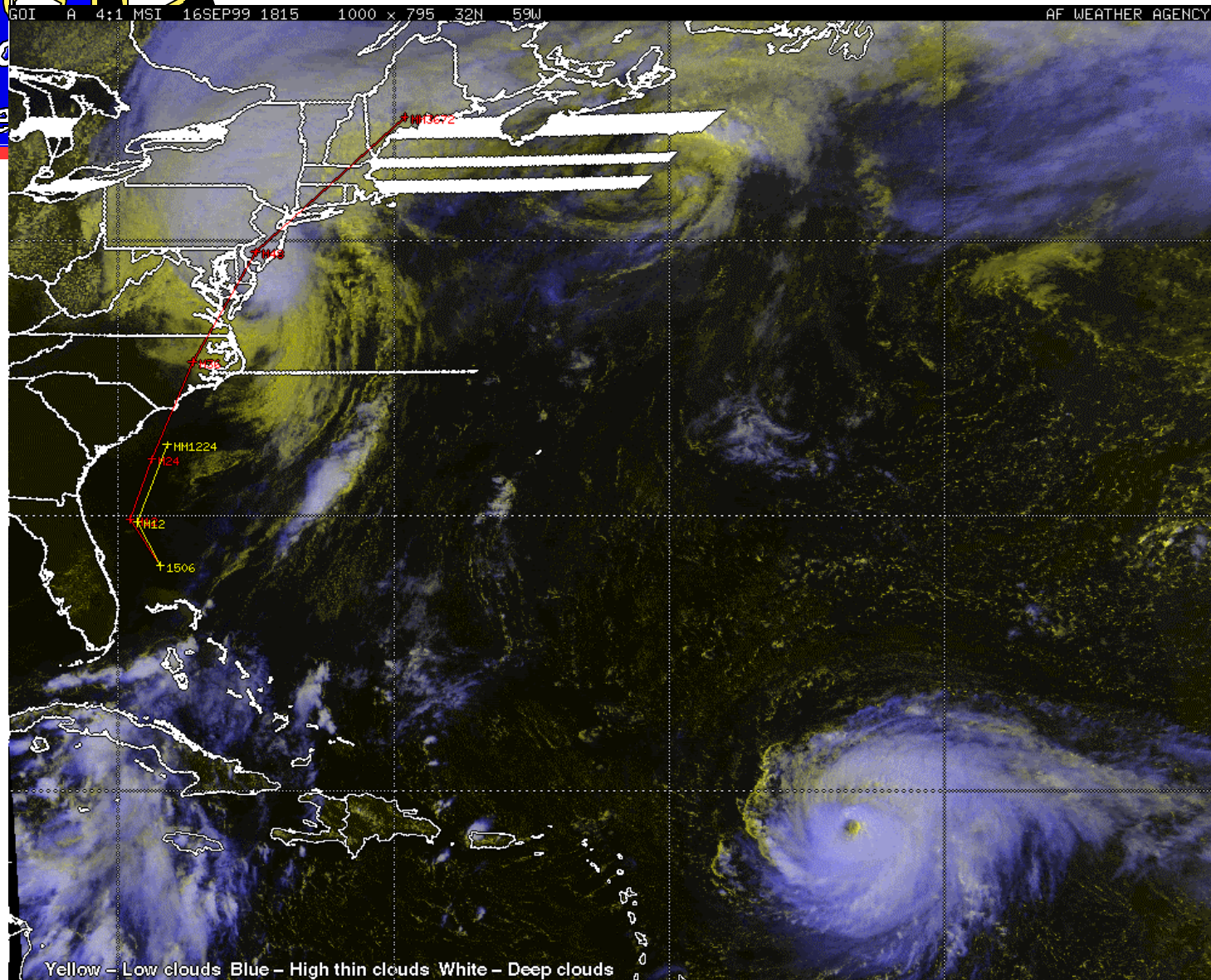
# Hurricane Floyd - 16 September 1999, 1200Z







# Hurricane Floyd - 16 September 1999, 1800Z

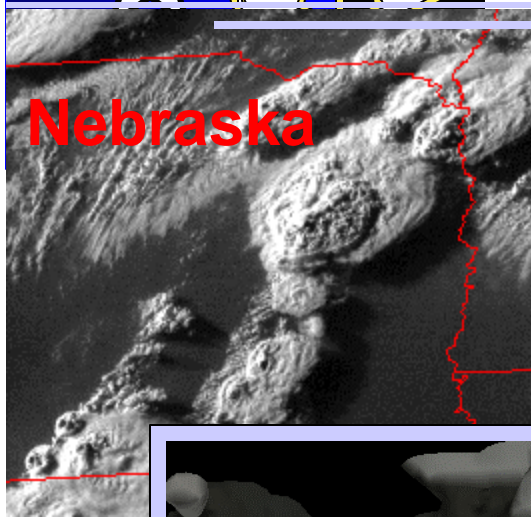




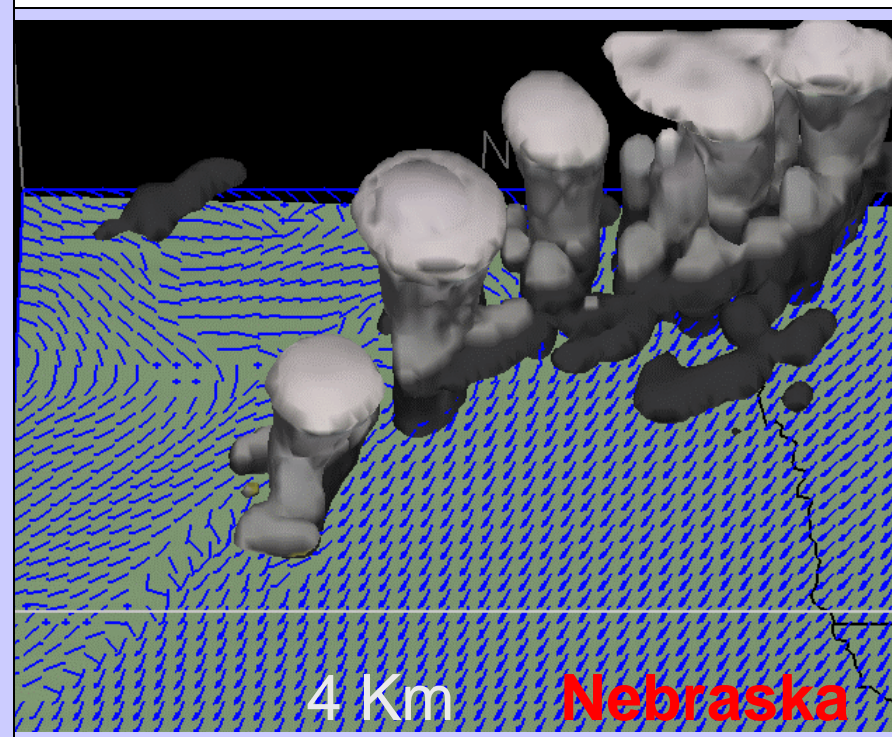
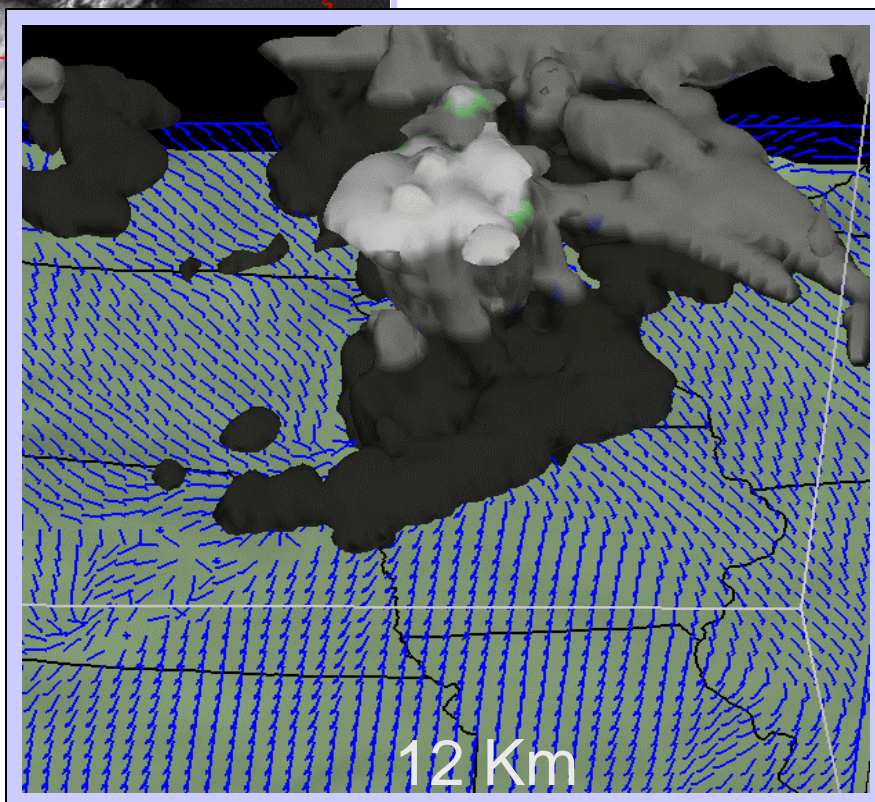


# TECHNOLOGY

## FINE-SCALE METSAT AND FORECASTING



Future of fine-scale weather forecasting is combining high-resolution satellite data with numerical weather prediction and producing visualizations with impact







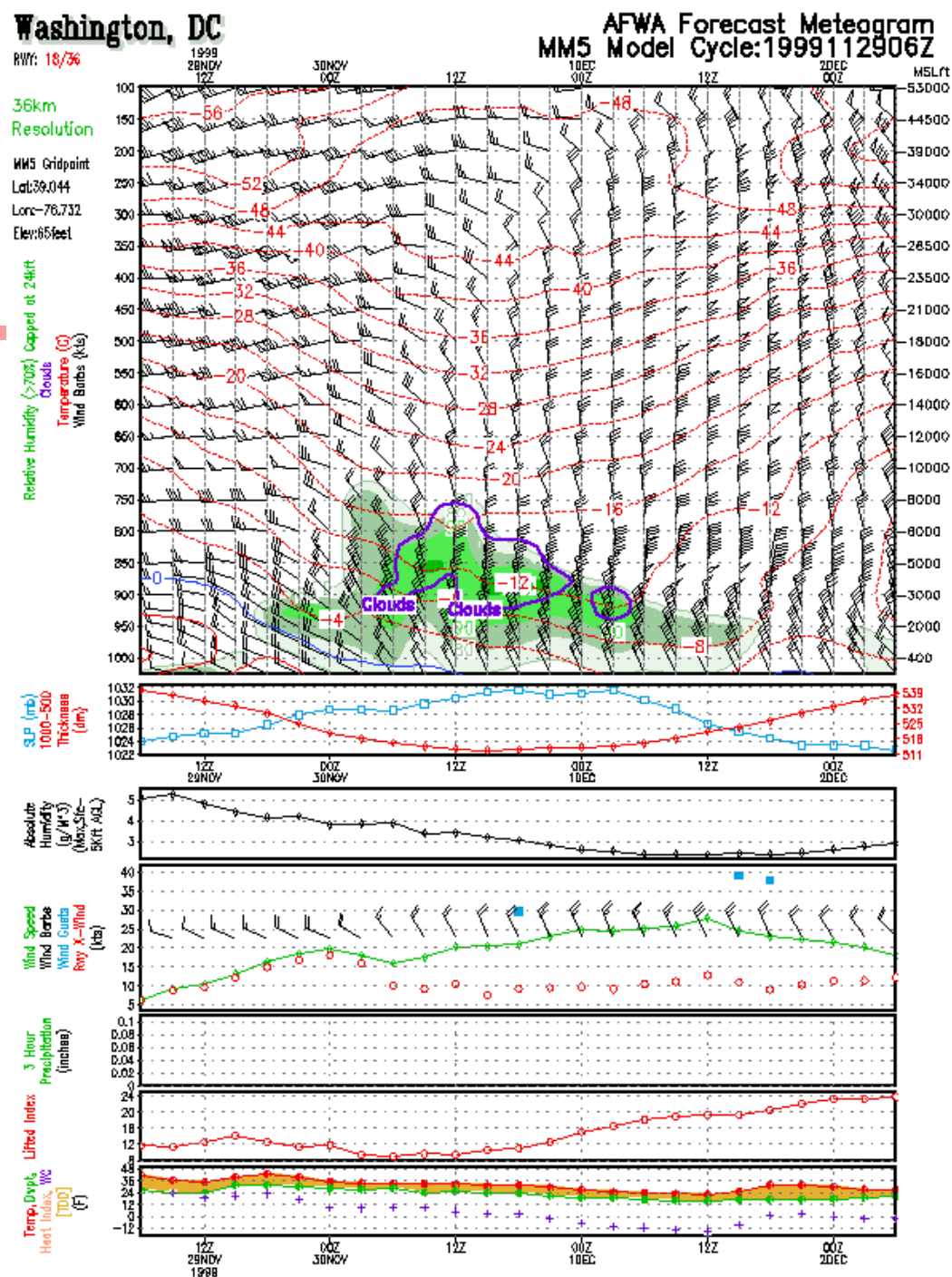
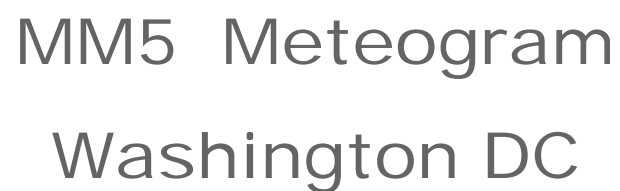
# SUMMARY

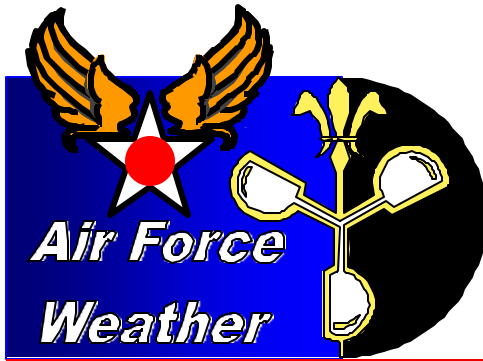
## Weather and Surface Transportation

- Weather affects almost all human endeavor.
- What is important is not the weather itself, but the effect the weather has on the activity, operation or mission.
- Weather information that is timely, accurate and relevant to the activity can allow decision makers to anticipate and exploit opportunities for success and mitigate the impacts of mission-limiting weather.
- Very fine-scale, highly accurate forecast models, coupled with trained people, provide the keys to improved “mission effectiveness.”

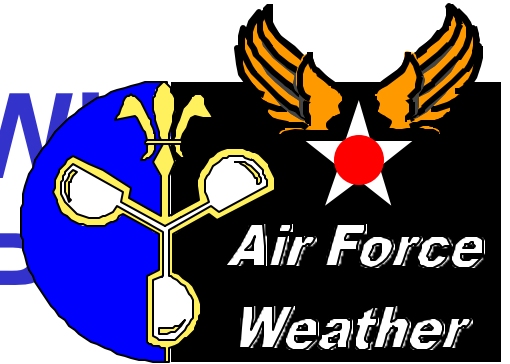


**BACK-UP SLIDES**





**It All Starts With  
~3,600 PEOPLE**



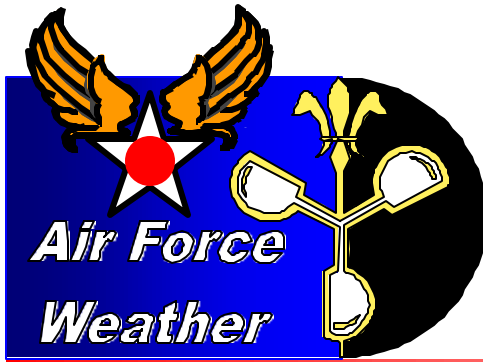
- **Officer Meteorologists (20%)**
- **Enlisted Technicians (68%)**
- **Government Civilian Experts (7%)**
- **Contract Assistance (5%)**
- **600 Guard + 100 Reservists**
  - ... and a mission to support Air Force,  
Army, and other designated DoD agencies  
land, air, sea, and space operations**





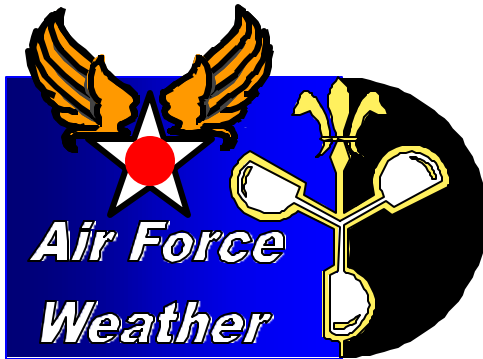
# AFWA Weather Models

- **Mesoscale Model 5 (MM5)** - theater weather model
  - Forecasts used to support Air Force and Army combat operations
- **Real-Time Nephanalysis (RTNEPH)** - cloud analysis
  - Analysis initializes cloud forecast models and used by Navy weather models
- **Surface Temperature (SFCTMP)** - temperature analysis and forecast
  - Input to RTNEPH cloud analysis (Air Force use)
- **Snow Depth Analysis (SNODEP)** - snow depth and age analysis
  - Input to RTNEPH cloud analysis, Navy, and National Weather Service models
- **Advect Cloud (ADVCLD)/High Resolution Cloud Prognosis (HRCP)**- cloud forecasts
  - Cloud amount forecasts used to support National Programs and combat operations
- **Atmospheric Slant Path Analysis Model (ASPAM)** - vertical profiles
  - Atmospheric profiles used to support National Programs and NBC dispersion
- **Agricultural Meteorology (AGRMET)** - analysis of surface parameters (soil moisture, etc.)
  - Surface parameters used to support National Programs and USDA



# AFWA Weather Models

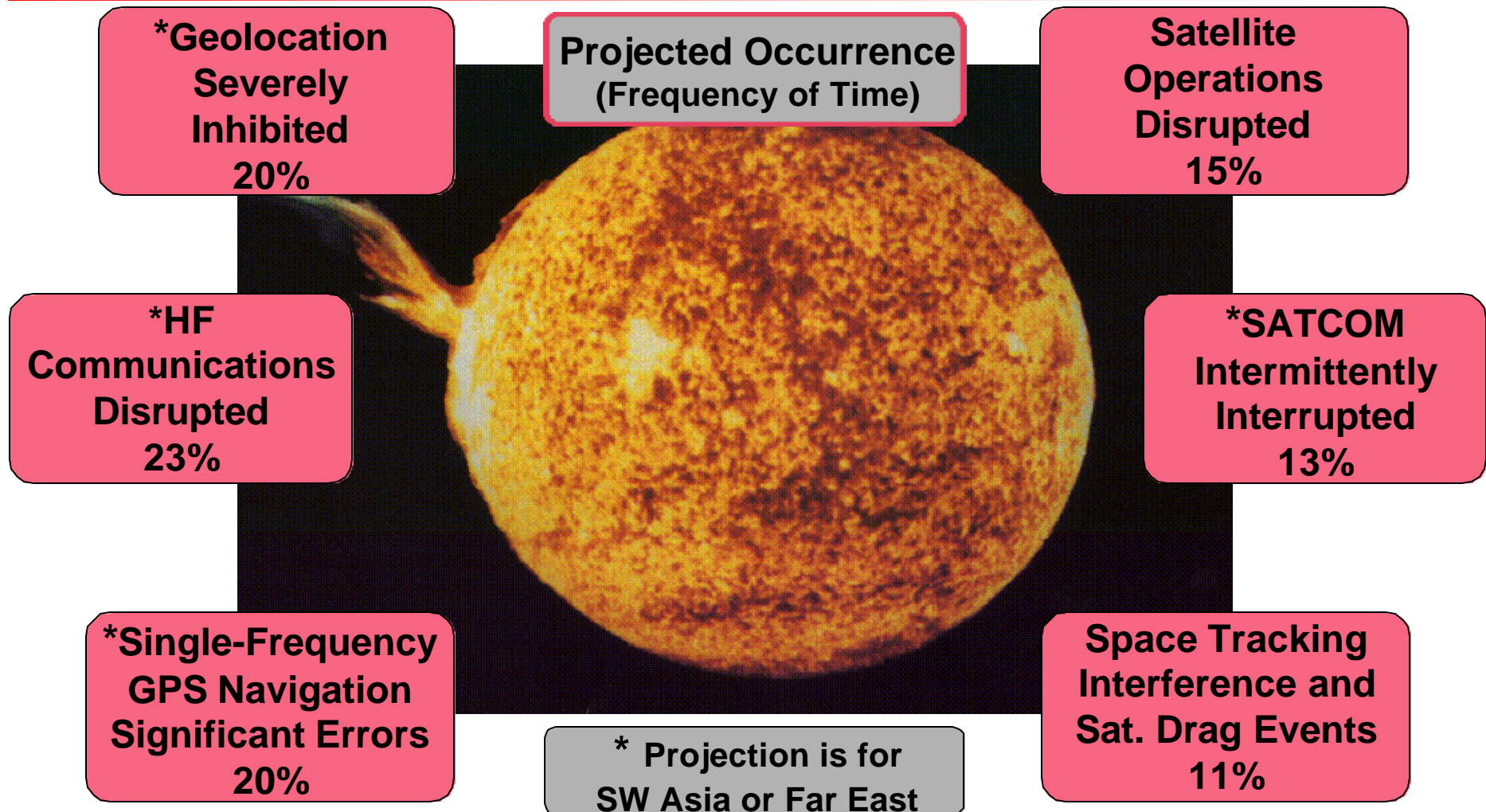
- **Mesoscale Model 5 (MM5)** - non-hydrostatic regional forecast model
  - 36/12/4 km horizontal resolution, 33 vertical levels
  - 36 km forecasts to 48 hours, inner nest forecasts to 24/12 hours
- **Real-Time Nephanalysis (RTNEPH)** - global analysis model
  - 25 nm horizontal resolution
  - Cloud amounts, bases and tops for 4 vertical layers, plus total cloud
- **Surface Temperature (SFCTMP)** - global analysis and forecast model
  - Analysis, 3-hour, and 4.5-hour forecast
  - 25 nm horizontal resolution
- **Snow Depth Analysis (SNODEP)** - global analysis model
  - 25 nm horizontal resolution
- **Advect Cloud (ADVCLD)** - global forecast model
  - Cloud amount at 5 levels plus total cloud
  - 25 nm horizontal resolution 0-12 hours, 50 nm horizontal resolution to 0-48 hours
- **Atmospheric Slant Path Analysis Model (ASPAM)** - point analysis model
  - Vertical profiles of temp, moisture, winds, aerosols, etc., available globally
- **Agricultural Meteorology (AGRMET)** - global analysis model
  - 25 nm horizontal resolution for 2 sub-surface layers (0-5 cm and 5-100 cm)



# SPACE WEATHER

*Key to 21st Century Warfare*

RISK PROJECTION 2000



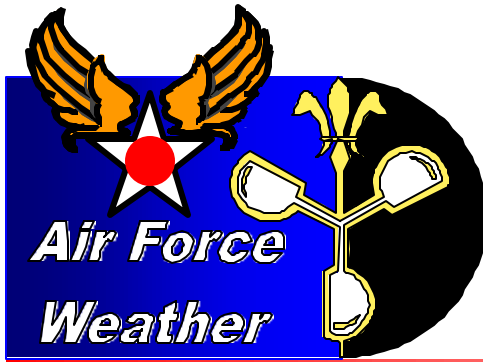




# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## History: Origins

- Born in 1814 at the direction of the Army Surgeon General
  - Grown from physicians taking weather observations to the world's premiere military weather organization.
- Expanding telegraph networks and a growing military interest in meteorology brought weather services to the Army's Signal Service in 1870.
- The creation of the Signal Corps' Aeronautical Division in 1907 created new requirements for aviation support.
- With the dawning of World War I, the world quickly realized that weather impacts to modern warfare were significant, and that weather services were critical.



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## History: World War I

***The rapid transmission by wireless of meteorological information is of the utmost importance...***

**General Erich F.W. Ludendorff  
German General Staff, 1917**

- British were intrigued at accuracy of German weather reports.
  - Germany's success was a direct result of weather observations being relayed by radio from submarines operating in the Atlantic Ocean.
- American military weather services were championed by Major General John J. Pershing and Brigadier General Billy Mitchell.
  - In 1917, Pershing requested meteorologists to support his American Expeditionary Forces in France.
  - Mitchell leveraged America's Signal Corps personnel and communications to produce accurate weather reports that became the basis of all orders for air operations.



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## History: World War II

***Almighty and merciful Father...grant us fair weather for battle...***  
**General George Patton, 1944**

- General Arnold challenged the weather services for accurate and relevant long range forecasts to support global military operations.
- This set the stage for the most famous of all forecasts - in support of Operation Overlord -- the invasion of France in 1944.
  - General Eisenhower created a coalition weather team that had the greatest impact of any organization on the execution of the European invasion.
  - The team was keenly aware of the often contradictory joint mission conditions required.
  - The Allied weather team successfully predicted marginal conditions for the assault.
  - Achieved almost complete surprise because the Germans, denied weather information, expected the weather to delay any invasion.





# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

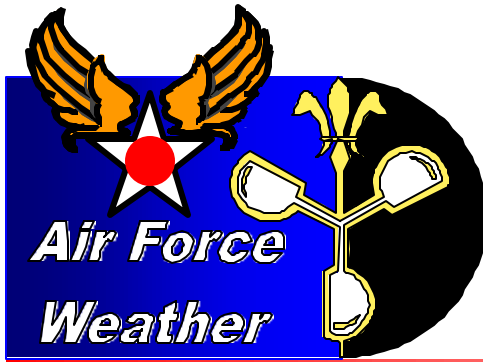
## History: Vietnam

*This weather (satellite) picture is probably the greatest innovation of the war...*

**Lt General William Momyer, 1967**

*Never in the history of warfare have weather decisions played such an important role in operational planning as they have in Southeast Asia...* **General Creighton Abrams, 1968**

- Unlike WW II, Weather organizations became physically and operationally separated from the operations centers
  - Target planning and integration slow and cumbersome
- New technologies presented greater environmental support challenges
- The Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) developed to satisfy the need for higher resolution satellite data and imagery
  - Failure to integrate DMSP info into decision processes limited effectiveness
- When weather integrated into decision processes, results were positive
  - Integration in the rescue of US POWs at Son Tay resulted in moving the operation to the only usable day for over a month either side of the operation



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## History: Gulf War

- A critical lesson was learned during DESERT STORM: there are few benign environments in modern warfare.
- Even in a climatologically favorable environment, there are significant impacts.
  - Extremes in temperatures impacted sortie generation.
  - Clouds impacted tactical delivery techniques.
  - Abnormal precipitation impacted ground operations.
- DESERT STORM called the first “space war” because of the expanded use of weather, navigation, early warning, and surveillance satellites.
- DESERT STORM occurred during the third largest solar maximum on record.
  - First “space war” was conducted in a significantly hostile natural environment.
- During the 41 day war, 81 major solar flares occurred.
  - Flares degraded performance of communication systems for minutes to hours.
  - In addition solar flares and other space environment phenomena affected SATCOM and UHF communication during the evening hours.



# MILITARY METEOROLOGY

## Military Operations Other than War

Air & space weather support is vital across the spectrum of warfighting. Contrast our Son Tay example with the failures at Desert One, the failed Iranian hostage rescue, where Air Force Weather personnel were not allowed to brief the crews local climatology or the execution weather. In Desert One, the opportunity for weather personnel and aircrews to determine mission thresholds and tailor the forecast to mission needs was lost. More challenging conditions, like those encountered in Bosnia, will affect deployment and employment operations. Effective planning will prepare alternative courses of action for the operations commander.

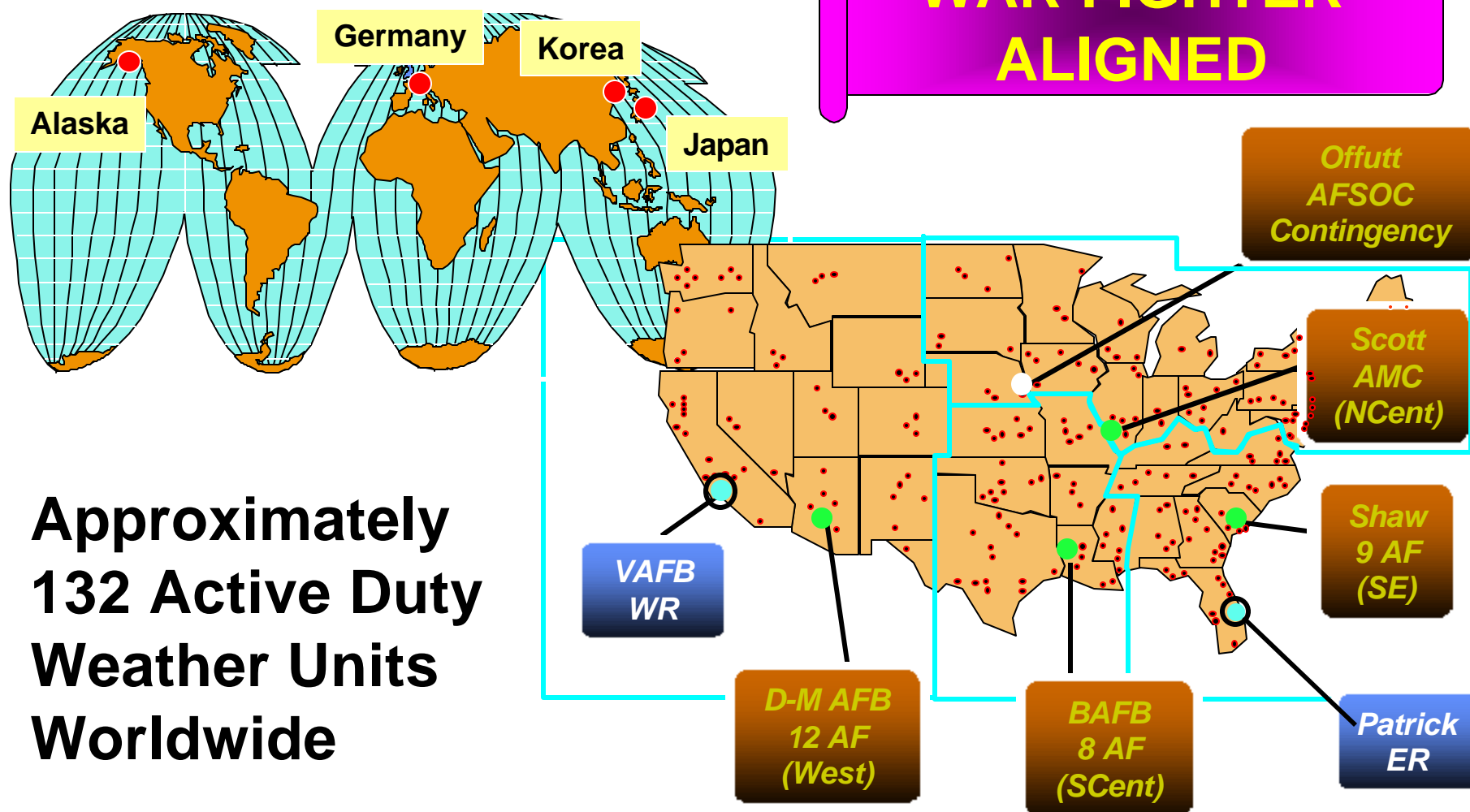




# AFW ARCHITECTURE

## Operational Weather Squadrons

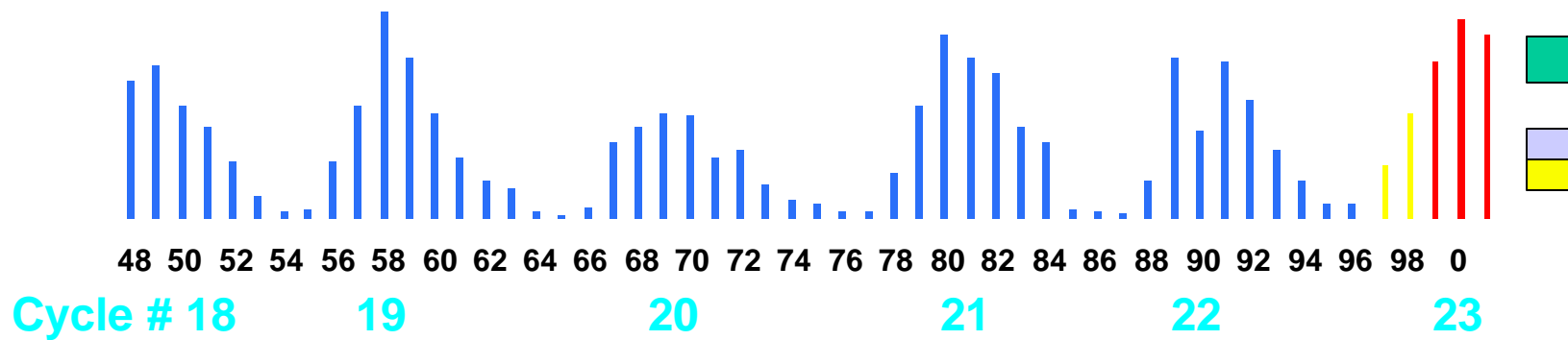
**WAR FIGHTER  
ALIGNED**



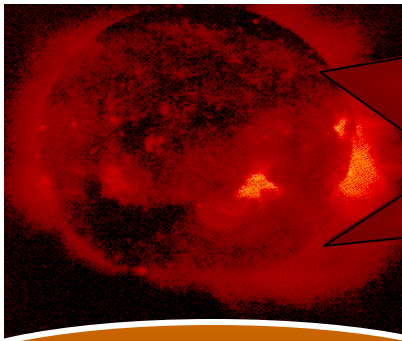
**Approximately  
132 Active Duty  
Weather Units  
Worldwide**

# TECHNOLOGIES: SPACE WEATHER

## Solar Cycle

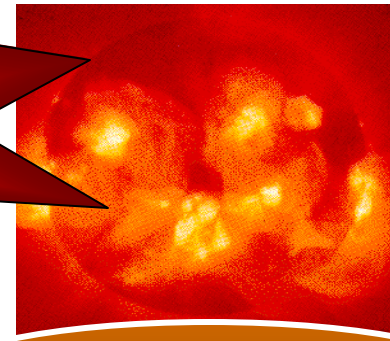


**Solar Minimum  
(1996)**



**“Quiet” Sun**

**Solar Maximum  
(1999-2002)**



**“Disruptive” Sun**

**Expect Cycle 23  
to be the  
Most Disruptive  
in 40 years**



# MM5 12km Cloud Tops/Surface Winds

24 Hr Forecast Valid 30 Nov 06Z

